

# THE TIMES

WEDNESDAY JANUARY 20 1982

Price twenty pence

Serials

## Dutch MP succeeds Mme Veil

Mr Piet Dankert, a Dutch Socialist, was elected president of the European Parliament in Strasbourg. He succeeds Mrs Simone Veil of France. Mr Dankert won 191 votes in the fourth round of voting, defeating Herr Egon Klepsch, a West German Christian Democrat, who received 174 votes.

## £1,000m job aid plan proposed

Government job creation schemes are not working according to report by a study group funded by industry and social service agencies. The report suggests a £1,000m programme to provide work for all those aged between 16 and 19. Page 3

## Rise in London rate arrears

Rates arrears in London has shown a marked increase since the Law Lords' judgment in the Greater London Council fares case. The decision had undermined the credibility of the rating system, a council finance officer said. Page 3

## Nine die in India's strike

Indian police shot dead four men yesterday and five more were killed in widespread clashes between supporters and opponents of the country's first general strike. But support was generally patchy. Earlier story, page 5

## Business today in a new form

Today *The Times*, Business News appears in a new format designed to provide essential information in an easy-to-read style. On page 13 the main news is complemented by a full coverage of markets, currencies and key indicators. Company analysis has been expanded on page 14, and on page 15 a new Business Editor's column gives the most authoritative assessment of the day's developments.

## Coca-Cola bids for film company

The Coca-Cola company is attempting to break into show business by making a \$750m (£396.5m) offer for Columbia Pictures. Investment bankers met yesterday to work out details of the as yet unconfirmed agreement. Page 13

## Entry ban on polio victim

The Home Office has rejected an application by a Ugandan Asian polio victim to join his family in Britain, in spite of a doctor's report which says he is severely handicapped. Page 2

## Koivisto sweeps to victory

Mr Mauno Koivisto, the Social Democratic Prime Minister, won 145 votes in the 301-member Electoral College which will appoint Finland's next President on January 26. His sweeping victory is seen as a turning point in Finnish politics. Page 6

## New worry for map-users

Map users from all over Britain are troubled that a government scheme to change the finance method of the Ordnance Survey could lead to fewer, less up-to-date maps of a lower standard. Page 2

## Egypt and Israel agree on Sinai

Egypt and Israel signed an agreement on Israel's withdrawal from Sinai. The disposal of only two places remains to be settled—Ratah on the Mediterranean and Taba, a resort on the Gulf of Aqaba. Page 6

## New citizen

Rudolf Nureyev, the ballet star who left the Soviet Union 21 years ago, has been granted Austrian citizenship, the Vienna State Opera announced. Aged 42, he has been stateless since 1961.

Leader page 11  
Letters: On Poland, from Mr Stephen Hastings, MP, and others; de la Tour in question, from Professor Michael Kinsman.  
Leading articles: Japanese surpluses; Finland; Ordnance Survey.

Features, pages 8, 10  
Why Britain needs a New Deal; the right to know what a computer has on you; Reagan is no Roosevelt. Obituary, page 12  
Mr Alec Robertson, Lieutenant-General Sir Edward Herring, Mr Bernard Kirchner, Varlam Shalamov.

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BR has refused to pay 20,000

## Whitelaw says blunders delayed arrest of Ripper

By Hugh Noyes, Parliamentary Correspondent

West Yorkshire police committed major errors of judgment in their hunt for the Yorkshire Ripper, which prevented an earlier arrest of Peter Sutcliffe. That is one of the main conclusions of the review of the case carried out by Mr Lawrence Byford, one of Her Majesty's Inspectors of Constabulary, which was reported to the House of Commons yesterday by Mr William Whitelaw, the Home Secretary.

The review discloses errors and inefficiencies which had not occurred would have led to a quicker identification of Sutcliffe as a prime suspect. From those conclusions, Mr Whitelaw told the House, it was clear that some of the Ripper's victims would not have died if the errors had not taken place and Sutcliffe had been arrested earlier.

Mr Whitelaw said that the report also showed that there were inefficiencies in the conduct of the operation at various levels and that excessive credence was given to letters and tapes from a man claiming responsibility for the murders and signing himself "Jack the Ripper".

Another serious handicap to the investigation was the ineffectiveness of the major incident room co-ordinating the hunt which became overloaded with unverified information.

Pressed by MPs to say what had happened to the various senior officers of the West Yorkshire force involved in the case, Mr Whitelaw said that the Chief Constable was not being removed from his office although there were certain officers in the force whom Mr Whitelaw would not agree should be promoted to Assistant Chief Constable.

He reminded the House that the Ripper case gave rise to the largest criminal investigation ever conducted in this country, involving a great strain on all concerned. It would have been surprising if, in this unprecedented situation, there were no mistakes.

Mr Ronald Gregory, Chief Constable of West Yorkshire, said last night: "The findings of this report are similar to those already identified by our internal inquiry and I can say little different to what I have already said". (Our Bradford Correspondent writes.)

Mr Gregory added: "I have already accepted that there were errors of judgment; errors which are not now difficult to see, but when the investigation was current they were much less obvious."

"The enormity of the Yorkshire Ripper inquiry has left its mark on the West Yorkshire police, but we will be better equipped in the future. Our methods of investigation and training will be reviewed, and no doubt the police service will learn from our experience."

Peter Sutcliffe is serving life imprisonment in Parkhurst Prison, the Isle of Wight, for the murder of 13 women. He is appealing against conviction and sentence.

Mr John Sutcliffe, aged 56, Peter Sutcliffe's father, said last night: "I have every sympathy with the police. Obviously I would have liked my son to have been caught earlier and lives saved. The police will have learned their lessons and I just hope they don't have to face anything like this again."

Police errors, page 4  
Parliamentary report, page 4

## Rail shutdown as talks break up

By David Felton, Labour Reporter

After more than ten hours the talks at ACAS on the rail dispute broke up inconclusively last night, with no prospects of an immediate settlement in sight. A statement said that ACAS had adjourned the talks to allow for further consideration. "We shall be in touch with the parties again tomorrow, but there are no plans for specific meetings until now," the Home Secretary added. "It was not so

He had the power to take the drastic step of removing the Chief Constable, who was operationally responsible for the whole force, only if he was satisfied that to do so would be in the interests of efficiency. He would have to be satisfied on this, having regard to the general performance of the force as a whole over a period. The Home Secretary added that he was not so

Talks were being held at the offices of the Advisory Conciliation and Arbitration Service with Mr Pat Lowry, the Acas chairman, acting as a go-between for the union leaders and British Rail officials.

The talks were held at the Midway through the talks. Mr Len Murray, general secretary of the TUC, arrived to try to resolve big differences between the three unions who were said to be arguing among themselves.

Mr Clifford Rose, British Rail's board member for industrial relations, left the Acas offices for more than three hours to attend a board meeting during which the management reaffirmed its determination to achieve the programme of specific productivity improvements including flexible rostering.

Neither union leaders, BR management or Acas officials were very hopeful that the talks could find a solution to the deepening crisis.

BR has refused to pay 20,000



Gormley survives left wing censure motion on betrayal charge

Mr Joe Gormley (left) and Mr Arthur Scargill, his successor as president of the National Union of Mineworkers, who were present during heated exchanges between left and right when the executive committee

met yesterday to discuss the outcome of the pithead pay ballot. Mr Scargill's militant Yorkshire miners conceded that the results, due to be announced tomorrow, had rejected the strike call, but their motion of censure condemning Mr Gormley's "betrayal" was defeated by a moderate motion "noting the complaint, and calling for no further action" was passed by 13 votes to 12. (Full report, page 2).

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## Rape case victim said she was prepared to give evidence

By David Hewson

A rape victim whose three alleged attackers are not being prosecuted said yesterday that she had always been prepared to give evidence in court.

The woman, aged 30, was speaking for the first time since it was announced that three teenagers would not stand trial for rape and attempted murder because psychiatrists said they would suffer permanent mental damage if forced to give evidence.

Her statements and reports that the prosecution had withdrawn its case against the three youths, including a signed confession, had led to renewed calls for an inquiry into the case.

The woman was savagely slashed with a razor during the attack and needed 168 stitches. In September, psychiatrists said she should not give evidence and the case was dropped. Under Scottish law, the three teenagers cannot face the charges again.

But yesterday, the woman said at her home in East Glasgow that the first she knew of the dropping of the charges was when she read the newspapers.

"I did not decide not to give evidence. I was prepared to go through with it. I want them put away for what they have done."

The Scottish Daily Record newspaper yesterday published what it claimed were extracts from an alleged confession by one of the youths. Both Strathclyde police and the Edinburgh Crown Office refused to confirm the authenticity of the extracts, but independent inquiries have confirmed that they are accurate.

It is now clear that when the Crown Office decided to drop the charges, it was in possession of the extracts.

• Increasing evidence—including blood samples from the youths' clothing which matched the raped woman's blood type.

Mr David Marshall, Labour MP for Glasgow Shettleston, said last night that the latest revelations made the decision not to prosecute even more incredible. Mr Marshall has called for an inquiry into the handling of the case and a statement is expected from the Lord Advocate of Scotland early next week.

The woman said the attack happened when she went out for a drink after an argument with her boyfriend. As she made her way home, two youths asked her for a light. She was then hit on the head and dragged into a hut in a screen.

"All I can remember is the glint of a blade. I thought it was a knife, but the police told me later it was a razor. When I came to, I was in this hut and a young boy was over me with the blade. I remember saying to him: 'You don't need to do that, but that is all I remember. Then I remember coming to, naked from the waist down.'

"Getting him over the head probably saved me from a worse ordeal, because I didn't even know I had been raped. The police told me I had been raped."

Continued on back page, col 5

The Daily Record said yesterday that the woman had been raped.

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# Gormley beats censure by only one vote

By Paul Routledge, Labour Editor

Mr Joseph Gormley, moderate president of the National Union of Mineworkers, survived a left-wing censure move by a single vote yesterday as militant coalfield leaders finally conceded defeat in their efforts to mount an all-out pit strike this winter.

In a tense meeting that almost degenerated into violence, the executive committee of the union, swing 13 to 12 against a Yorkshire area move to censure colliery veterans leader for alleged betrayal of the union in a newspaper article advising rejection of the vote for possible strike action.

During a heated two-hour-long exchange between militants and moderates on the executive, Mr Jack Jones, right-wing leader of the Leicestershire coalfield, brashly a water canister across the table at Mr George Rees, the Communist secretary of the Welsh miners. Mr Rees lost his glasses as he rose in response, but Mr Gormley quickly restored order.

Ironically, the scene was not prompted by the argument over Mr Gormley's eve-of-poll intervention, but by sharp rejoinders over the conduct of a special delegate conference chaired by Mr Michael McGahey, the union's Communist vice-president, before Christmas.

Leicestershire miners, among others, objected to Mr McGahey's decision to permit several hundred miners lobbying the conference into the policy-making session. Mr Gormley eventually ruled that in future conferences of this kind, neither the press nor coalfield pickets should be allowed in. When they got down to the equally-controversial issue of his article in the *Daily Express*,

## Cuts may cost colleges 4,000 teachers' jobs

By Diana Geddes, Education Correspondent

The Government expects that local authorities will have to shed around 4,000 teachers' jobs in polytechnics and other maintained colleges as a result of cuts in funds for higher education, announced yesterday, of up to 15 per cent in some institutions.

A total of £53m is being made available for higher education in the maintained sector in 1982/83. That represents an average cut in real terms of about 6½ per cent for 1980/81, the latest academic year for which firm expenditure figures are available.

The cuts next year compared with the 1980/81 expenditure range among the polytechnics from 11 per cent for the North East London Polytechnic and 10 per cent for Teesside, to 2 per cent for Liverpool, Coventry, Leicester, Plymouth, Trent and Oxford.

Outside the polytechnics, the cuts for higher education range from 15 per cent for colleges in Barking, Sandwell, Liverpool, Bradford and Northumberland to 2 per cent in Barnet, Redbridge, Rochdale, Tameside, North Tyneside, and Somerset.

In a letter to local educa-

## Polio victim refused entry

By Lucy Hodges

A polio victim who sought to join the rest of his Ugandan Asian family in Britain has been refused on the ground that he applied outside the time limit and was not dependent on his father.

Strong representations have been made on his behalf by Lord Averbury, the Liberal peer, and the Joint Council for the Welfare of Immigrants. They are particularly angry that advice given to Mr Timothy Raison, the minister in charge of immigration, that Mukesh Patel, aged 22, was only "slightly deformed", which would not affect his ability to work in India.

The accompanying photograph shows Mr Patel to be fairly seriously disabled, and a medical examination by an orthopaedic surgeon in Baroda found him to be severely handicapped.

The doctor said: "He cannot do heavy manual work in the fields. He has to live a protected existence of the physically handicapped, and needs training—in suitable work—as physically handicapped individuals."

This year, Mr Patel applied to join his father, mother, brother and three sisters who live in Forest Gate, east London. He had completed his education and his family wanted to be reunited with him so they could look after him better than he was being looked after in India.

When the family left India for Uganda in the 1950s they left him behind with relations because of his deformities.

## Wilson gets libel damages

Sir Harold Wilson and his wife yesterday accepted "substantial" undisclosed damages in settlement of a High Court libel action in London against the publishers and printers of a book which claimed the former Prime Minister had lived in a fantasy world.

The book, *Sir Harold Wilson: Yorkshire Walter Mitty*, since withdrawn, had also

## Hattersley attacks Rodgers on TV remark

By Philip Webster, Political Reporter

A statement by Mr William Rodgers that the Social Democratic Liberal alliance would be prepared to join with the Conservatives in a coalition government after the next election was an accusation last night from Mr Roy Hattersley that the SDP would cobble a majority with anyone who would give them power.

The same day, appearing in the BBC Television programme *Taking Issue* which had been recorded on Monday.

Mr Hattersley drew attention to Mr Rodgers' remarks by putting up a statement during the day saying: "It would be unfortunate if, because of the late hour at which the programme is broadcast, Mr Rodgers' willingness, indeed enthusiasm, for forming such a coalition did not receive the publicity it deserves."

Mr Hattersley's action caused some surprise among Mr Rodgers' colleagues in the SDP who felt that he had said nothing sensational.

Afterwards an unrepentant Mr Gormley said: "I didn't even speak I did not even want to give a reason why I wrote the article. Why should I tell anyone?"

The militants have now accepted defeat this time round. Mr Arthur Scargill, the Yorkshire area leader and national president-elect, said: "It would appear from informal reports that the 55 per cent majority to authorize strike action is not going to be attained."

Describing Mr Hattersley's job about the SDP being prepared to cobble a majority with anyone as nonsense, Mr Rodgers replied: "We were necessary with whatever party we might need to support those policies which we were committed to and which were desperately important to the country."

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NEWS IN  
SUMMARY

Inquiry into  
fake Army  
test passes

The Ministry of Defence is investigating an Army racket which may have put more than 3,000 lorry drivers on the road without taking a proper heavy goods vehicle test or having a medical check.

Senior officers are known to have obtained HGV licences without taking tests before they left the Army. At Catterick camp, North Yorkshire, Ministry of Defence police are checking 8,000 pass certificates after a sergeant examiner admitted illegally distributing more than 200 in 1980.

Sergeant Henry Billings, aged 34, of The Queen's Own Hussars, was given a six-month jail sentence, suspended for 12 months, and fined £500, after admitting five specimen deception charges at Teesside Crown Court yesterday.

Billings charged candidates for tests, which makes them invalid, and often did not even test them before issuing a pass certificate. He gave HGV licences to army friends and to Colin McCamley, a civilian driving instructor who sent him 20 test candidates.

McCamley, aged 34, of Colburn Lane, Catterick, admitted seven specimen deception charges. He was given a three-month jail sentence, suspended for 12 months, and fined £600.

Fans jailed  
for attack

Three Scottish football supporters who gave women at a convention "a dreadful thrashing" were jailed by Nottingham Crown Court yesterday. Sentence was deferred on a fourth convicted of making an affray after celebrating Scotland's win over England at Wembley last May.

The court was told that Robert Thomson, aged 45, his son Gary, aged 19, and brother, James, aged 36, all of Arkwright Walk, Nottingham, and James Palmer, aged 29, of Lockview Court, Edinburgh, attacked the women at Queens Walk Community Centre, Nottingham, where they were holding a "right to work" conference, because they thought they were lesbians.

Robert Thomson was jailed for 12 months, James Thompson for six months and Palmer for four months. Sentence on Gary Thompson was deferred for four months.

Ex-undercover  
agent barred

Mr Ted Ratnoff, a former United States undercover agent, who spent 18 months in an Austrian prison after being convicted of fraud, was refused entry into Britain by immigration authorities at Heathrow yesterday and put on a British Airways flight to Vienna.

Mr Ratnoff, aged 42, was deported from Innsbruck last Thursday and flown to Frankfurt. He arrived in London, where he was arrested, on Friday, saying he did not want to return to the United States. The Home Office said Mr Ratnoff was refused entry because his documents gave him only the status of a visitor.

Foot find starts  
police hunt

West Yorkshire police were searching yesterday for evidence to explain the discovery of a decomposed human left foot in a sock, at near the River Calder, at Stanley Bottom, Wakefield.

Divers checked the river at Stanley Ferry near by, and 45 officers, some with dogs, combed the land while police filters were checked.

The foot was found by a man walking his dog about 200 yards from the river near a sewage works between the Wakefield to Abergavenny road on Sunday.

School asks parents  
to pay for books

Parents of the 1,200 pupils at Weymouth Grammar School, Dorset, are being asked to make covenants of up to £50 a pupil a year because Mr Patrick Nobes, the head, says the local education authority is not allowing sufficient money for basic needs. He says some text books are failing to bits after 15 years' use, and desks and chairs are in need of repair.

Appeal for more cash  
to restore minster

Restoration work on Beverley Minster, Humber-side, will not resume in April unless £60,000 is raised in three months. Lord Middleton, president of the minister's restoration appeal committee, said yesterday. A new appeal for an extra £200,000 on top of the £700,000 raised since 1976, has been launched.

Thatcher club debt  
Grantham football club, Lincolnshire, of which Mrs Margaret Thatcher is president, may go into liquidation because of debts totalling £22,000. Supporters have given £5,000.

# £1,000m project to aid young jobless urged

By Tony Samstag

Youth unemployment is causing intolerable harm to British society and existing job creation schemes are not working, according to a report published today by a lobby in the 80s, an independent study group financed by several industries and social service agencies.

He continues: "Evidence is accumulating that youth unemployment is preventing the integration of a generation into the community as a whole. It is not only the lack of 'legitimate' inter-generational contact that work provides. It is the vicious circle of mutual suspicion that youth unemployment generates."

Government programmes are found wanting on two main counts: they are not cost-effective and take little account of the likelihood "that for some individuals, exclusive concern with preparation for and involvement in the world of conventional employment will have more or less similar in most of the other industrial nations, several of which are participating in the Jobs in the 80s" study programme. An international report on youth unemployment is due later this year. The organization suggests that unemployed young people should be matched with sectors of society facing "potentially critical shortage of skills", such as community services.

Youth Unemployment: The Appropriate Response, by Bob Tyrrell, Jobs in the 80s, 2 Tudor Street, London EC4Y 0AA.

## Thousands withhold rates after ruling

By David Walker

Hundreds of thousands of householders and firms have been encouraged to withhold or delay their rate payments by the law lords' judgement in the Greater London Council fares case.

This result, of an informal survey of London boroughs by The Times, reinforces the verdict of one outer London council finance officer that the case has done more than anything else to destroy the credibility of the rating system.

End-of-year rates arrears have grown significantly in recent years and could reach a peak in London, the West Midlands and several Merseyside districts, this March.

It seems likely that the 5 per cent of rates income usually uncollected by the end of the financial year will rise to 7 per cent or more. Since summonses for unpaid rates are often lodged after the financial year ends, 1982-83 may well see an unprecedented volume of legal action by councils against ratepayers.

Rates arrears have grown because councils delayed their autumn reminders as the GLC case went through the courts.

Mr Daniel Regan, director of finance of Tower Hamlets council, blamed reticence in taking legal action against rates defaulters for arrears that could soon total £2.7m, compared with £1.7m last year.

In Croydon, arrears could be £1m more than 1981's £850,000. Arrears on the council's inability to send out summonses in November because the GLC's supplementary rate had made collection so complex.

The confusion surrounding London's local government finance remains in spite of last week's GLC meeting, which decided to double fares and end the supplementary rate, and Monday's House of Commons amendment by Mr Michael Heseltine, the Secretary of State for the Environment, that £50m in grant penalty is to be restored to London.

The picture is clearer in outer London, where the finances of the Inner London Education Authority do not complicate calculations. Ratepayers in Bromley have few difficulties as the council, which successfully chal-

lenged the GLC in court, did not levy a supplementary rate. However, Mr Neil Newton, the council's director of finance, reports a significant growth in Bromley's rate arrears.

The neighbouring Croydon council is shortly to rescind its decision to levy the supplementary rate, which has so far yielded £3m which will be repaid or credited to ratepayers' accounts. In Harrow refunds will be paid automatically and Wandsworth ratepayers will be given the choice of cash or a credit.

The £60m to be restored to London is part of the £1.2m subtracted from the city's rate support grant because the GLC's spending exceeded government targets. Each borough will, notionally, get back a share which may allow a slight rates cut next year.

Most inner London boroughs are withdrawing the supplementary rate, and replacing it with a new demand to cover the ILFA's legal precept. The authority asked for £35m, and boroughs have so far paid £17m in instalments.

But not all boroughs are raising a fresh rate. Camden council has been told by Mr John Marlowe, its chief finance officer, and lawyers that such a rate would be illegal because the borough has enough cash to pay the precept. Tower Hamlets will also pay ILFA by drawing on its cash reserves.

Cheap fares precept legal, councils say

Some councils in the West Midlands still feel that the supplementary rate levied to pay for cheap bus and train fares was legal, even though they decided to abandon its £50m public transport subsidy after taking counsel's advice (Arthur Osman writes).

Ratepayers seem unlikely to receive a rebate, which would be costly and complex, but district councils are expected to deduct between 3p and 4p in the pound from the next demand. The low fares represented 5p of the 10p supplementary rate, including the cost of losing £2m in government grants.

## New Rover 2000's economy appeal

By Peter Waymark, Motoring Correspondent

BL has reintroduced a Rover 2000 after a gap of nearly nine years in an attempt to reverse a steady decline in sales. Only 21,500 Rovers were sold in Britain last year, compared with 31,580 in 1978.

Like most of its rivals in the so-called "executive" sector, the Rover has suffered as customers have turned towards smaller cars in the search for better fuel economy.

The new 2000, which uses BL's two litre O Series engine, will be one of the most economical models in its class, giving 42.6 miles per gallon at 56 mph, 23.9 mpg in town driving and 32.8 mpg at 75 mph.

BL forecasts that the 2000 could eventually account for up to a quarter of all Rover sales. It is hoping to sell 25,000 Rovers in Britain and 7,500 on the Continent this year, against combined sales of 27,500 in 1981.

The 2000 costs £7,450, the same as the previous 2000, and all other prices have

been increased. The 2300 is now £7,970, the 2500 £10,177 and the top of the range Vanden Plas 3500 £14,787.

The introduction of the revised range coincides with the transfer of Solihull to Cowley, where the bodyshells are made, at a saving of £8m a year.

BL claims that less frequent servicing will help to make the Rovers the cheapest cars to maintain in the executive class. More than 50,000 miles, or four years, service costs for the 2000 will be £236, against £237 for the Ford Granada and £511 for the Volvo 244.

The other main changes include a deeper rear window and wash/wipe system for the tailgate, new instrument panel, more head and legroom in the front seat and a return, on the more expensive versions, of walnut veneer trim.

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The Prince of Wales greets Paul Ringer, a former Welsh rugby international, who has been a driver attached to the blizzard emergency centre in Cardiff.

## Prince surveys blizzard damage in Wales

The Prince of Wales interrupted his holiday yesterday to visit Wales and see for himself the havoc wrought by the worst blizzards in living memory (Tim Jones, writes from Cardiff). But his plans to pay unscheduled calls on badly affected farming communities had to be curtailed as low cloud and rain thwarted his plans for a helicopter flight.

In Cardiff, the Prince visited Mr and Mrs Ossie Swift whose home partially collapsed under the weight of the snow. Mrs Swift was given only 30 minutes, warning of the call, and as the Prince walked into her damp and damaged terrace house she greeted him in her slippers still disbelieving the evidence of her eyes.

The Prince told reporters outside the house that his Highgrove estate had also suffered from the weather when a tank had burst, damaging a ceiling in a lodge. At

the offices of south Glamorgan County Council, he spoke to staff who had manned the emergency operations room, which handled more than 10,000 calls.

At Wenvoe, outside Cardiff, the Prince walked among wrecked greenhouses belonging to Mr Len Jones, a market gardener, who estimated the damage at £25,000. The Prince said: "We have had drought. We have had snow. It will probably be a hurricane next."

The Prince's visit ended at Carmarthen, which was cut off for two days after the blizzards.

Three sheep were found alive yesterday after being buried in a 15ft snowdrift for 12 days (The Press Association reports). They were in a flock owned by Mr Richard Whiteman, of Buckland, near Evesham, in the Cotswold Hills.

Mr Whiteman found them huddled in a cavity in the snow. He

said: "They were tiny, weak and hungry, but otherwise quite well. Even more extraordinary is that the sheep are due to have lambs in three weeks."

Driving conditions in Britain were much improved yesterday, the RAC said. Fog affected a few areas and there was ice in Essex.

Thick fog reduced visibility to 10 yards in parts of Tyne Tees, and in Wales a slight drizzle saw off what remained of the snow.

The RAC has written to Mr David Howell, Secretary of State for Transport, expressing concern at the damage done by the weather to Britain's roads. The organization said yesterday that many roads need repairs.

Cumbria County Council expects to be overspent by £800,000 on its winter road maintenance budget, and Suffolk County Council faces a £3m road bill because of the weather.

## Gum 'aids smokers to stop'

By Annabel Ferriman,  
Health Services Correspondent

The use of nicotine chewing gum can double a smoker's chances of successfully giving up tobacco, Dr Michael Russell, consultant psychiatrist at the Maudsley Hospital, London, said yesterday.

Dr Russell, who runs a clinic for smokers at the hospital for the past 10 years, said that simple support and encouragement from a clinic would result in about 15 to 20 per cent of smokers giving up and remaining off cigarettes for at least a year.

Most inner London boroughs are withdrawing the supplementary rate, and replacing it with a new demand to cover the ILFA's legal precept. The authority asked for £35m, and boroughs have so far paid £17m in instalments.

But not all boroughs are raising a fresh rate. Camden council has been told by Mr John Marlowe, its chief finance officer, and lawyers that such a rate would be illegal because the borough has enough cash to pay the precept. Tower Hamlets will also pay ILFA by drawing on its cash reserves.

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Dr Russell was speaking at a press conference in London organized by Lundbeck Ltd, which markets a nicotine chewing gum.

The gum, which is available only on private prescription, costs between £6 and £6.50 for a pack of 105, and lasts between a week and 10 days. Smokers are encouraged to go on taking it for two to three months to prevent relapse. A full course of treatment, therefore, costs about £50.

Dr Russell said he hoped that it would soon become available on the National Health Service.

Dr Russell admitted that one in 10 smokers at his clinic did have trouble stopping using the chewing gum itself.

## Decline in teaching of arts condemned

By Diana Geddes, Education Correspondent

Alarm about the position of the arts in schools has been expressed by Mr Peter Brinson, United Kingdom director of the Gulbenkian Foundation and chairman of a foundation committee of inquiry into the arts in schools, whose report was published yesterday.

Mr Brinson, who runs a committee consisting of educationalists in the arts field, believes that provision for the arts in many primary schools was disappointing. Sometimes teachers' expectations of pupils were too low and the work lacked direction; at other times, the work was over-directed, and pupils were given little room to exercise their creative powers.

The committee did not share the view of the advocates of completely free expression, but pupils needed to be encouraged to test ideas that were novel, or even eccentric and iconoclastic. The teacher's role was to strike a balance.

Society needed and valued abilities other than academic. "The arts exemplify some of these other capacities; of intuition, creativity, sensitivity and practical skills. We maintain that an education in these is quite as important for all children as an education in the more academic kind, and that not to have this is to stunt and distort their growth as intelligent, feeling and capable individuals."

"We are not arguing against the pursuit of academic excellence. We are arguing that the level of concern with this in schools is misguided, wasteful, and unjustified; socially, educationally and economically."

On spending cuts, the situation was "bleak and becoming bleaker". Music in particular was getting savage accounts of a pupil's work.

The committee was concerned about the attitudes towards the arts in schools. Many administrators, teachers and parents had had indifferent experiences of the arts while they were at

spending in the arts had never been profligate. The danger was that the cuts, which might make small savings within the total education budget, would devastate the provision for arts.

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While the association gave the committee a general welcome as a useful contribution to the debate, it criticized most of its proposals.

Savings would not be achieved until new methods had taken over completely and all people now needlessly in long-stay health service institutions were living in the community.

The move to Cowley, where £35m has been spent on a new paint shop, should improve the Rover's poor reputation on quality and reliability, which has been reflected in low second-hand values.

The association's point is made in response to the consultative document which proposed several

## PARLIAMENT January 19, 1982

# Major errors by police in hunt for Ripper

## CRIME

During the search for the Yorkshire Ripper there were major errors of judgement by the police and some inefficiencies in the conduct of the operation at various levels. Mr William Whitelaw, the Home secretary, said in a statement on the review of the case carried out by Mr Lawrence Byford, one of her Majesty's inspectors of constabulary.

Mr Whitelaw said: I asked Mr Byford to report on any lessons which might be learnt from the conduct of the investigation and which should be made known to police forces generally. Mr Byford was assisted in his review by the external advisory team set up in November, 1980. He was also able to take account of views put to him about this tragic case by relatives of the victims, who greatly appreciated the opportunity to voice their misgivings.

I have now seen Mr Byford's report and I am extremely grateful to him for it.

It is apparent from the report that there were major errors of judgement by the police and some inefficiencies in the conduct of the investigation and which should be made known to police forces generally.

Mr Roy Hattersley, chief opposition spokesman on home affairs (Birmingham, Sparkbrook, Lab): The Home Secretary's statement contains matters which the House will consider to be both distressing and distressing but the light of the day the discussion of them is unavoidable. The majority of the officers involved in the case worked diligently and conscientiously and we must all take comfort from that.

The report makes no attempt to pin the individuals involved or excuse the failures of the service. That being said a number of facts are tragically inescapable. The report makes clear that there was inefficiency and serious error and that the lack of resources involved was ineffective. A large number of senior officers proved incapable of the efficient discharge of the duties placed upon them.

I have to ask the Home Secretary a stark question. Did not these failures result in the deaths of women who should

have been saved from the awful fate which overcame them?

I ask him to take three actions which are necessary for the establishment of confidence in the police force. First, an unambiguous statement of his intentions. Will he promise the House to take whatever action is necessary to remedy the faults which the report describes? We need assurance that he will take whatever action is necessary to avoid serious errors in the detection of crime in police forces outside West Yorkshire. This report will reverberate throughout the country undermining confidence in other areas.

What action is being taken concerning the officers who were clearly responsible for the errors which prolonged the tragedy? Are they still in charge? If they are not, what if the House decides that they should be those subsequently killed who would not have been. With the benefit of hindsight one has to accept that.

Mr Hattersley asks that we should take whatever steps are necessary to improve the situation in the future. I have already this morning discussed the report with the leader of the last Labour Council and with the appointed members of the police authority. I am grateful to learn these lessons. I will transmit Mr Hattersley's point.

Mr Richard Wainwright (Colne Valley, L): There was literally a total lack of computer power which could have directed us more accurately. Sutcliffe much earlier had assembled an enormous amount of information which was assembled on bits of paper which Yorkshire television viewers saw being sorted in enormous numbers of shoe boxes in the incident room.

All of us accept immediately the responsibility that places on us. He said the purpose he had in mind in supplementing the report made internally by the deputy chief constable was to make



Whitelaw: Lessons to learn



Hattersley: Tragic facts

absolutely certain that the lessons on this case should be properly learnt and should be transmitted to all the police services in the country.

Through the inspectors of constabulary (the IAO) I intend to make sure that these lessons will be learnt. I believe that less than that would not do justice to an important report.

Mr Whitelaw: I asked the officers concerned and whether they are still in charge of investigations of serious crimes in the area. That is an important question.

Mr Whitelaw: I could not guarantee directly to answer every question. It would be wrong if I did so. What I can say is that if Sutcliffe had been arrested earlier then there would be those subsequently killed who would not have been. With the benefit of hindsight one has to accept that.

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arities and police forces to ensure information provided by modern technology which should certainly be made available to police forces will not be used for the invasion of human rights.

Mr Whitelaw: I take the point about the importance of the police authorities. I accept the information readily available was not used to the best advantage because of failures in the incident room.

We are still learning in the police forces as throughout the nation the best use is made of computer technology in the police service. There is always a conflict of interest in all these problems to do with computer technology as to what information is given and how it is used. It is a balance that has to be struck in the police force.

Mr Marcus Fox (Shipley, 2): Regarding the police authority during this long investigation did they give their full support to the Chief Constable during this period?

Mr Whitelaw: The police authority took before the election when control changed hands and since have given the fullest possible support both morally and financially. It has meant a considerable strain on them. They have done their best to help in every way they could.

Once reorganization of the corporation's assets was completed the Bill would enable the Government to take possession of the corporation's shares in Britain. The initial aim was to sell 51 per cent of the shares in Britain while keeping the way open for a further sale from the Government's shareholding at a later date when it was decided to sell the remaining 49 per cent.

The sale would not go ahead unless the Government were satisfied that the selling price represented fair value for the taxpayer, but there was no reason to doubt the acceptability of the price obtained.

After the sale of 51 per cent of the shares, Britain would operate as a normal private sector company with the management and workforce responsible, under their directors, for their own future. The Government did not intend to continue to be a shareholder to intervene in the company's commercial decisions. It would retain special rights to prevent any unacceptable change in the future control of the company.

Similarly (he said) in any situation where there are attempts directly or indirectly to obtain control over the composition of the board, the shares held in my name should carry a temporary majority to vote on any resolution to appoint, reelect or remove a director. These are important powers. We believe that these articles will provide effective safeguards against unacceptable changes in control of Britain.

The Government would want Britain, like any other oil company, to enter into a participation agreement with BNOC covering its existing licence interests, and the terms of this agreement would be settled well before the sale of shares.

In the fifth and sixth licensing rounds, where there would be no participation but BNOC owned 51 per cent of the shares, the Government would in general seek public sector access to about half the production from each licence but without disturbing the present rights of private licensees. (Labour intervention).

I shall not seek access (he said)

to more than 51 per cent of Britain's oil from licences awarded in the first four rounds. But for the fifth and sixth rounds I shall depend on the detailed provisions applying to each separate licence, and they do vary, this policy may require BNOC to have options to more than 51 per cent of Britain's oil.

The Government intended to use the new powers in the Bill to dispose of gas corporation assets to privatize the corporation's substantial investment in North Sea oil. Parliamentary approval was required in each and every

More important in the long run were provisions in Part II of the Bill on the breaking of the BGC monopoly in the supply of gas. By law the gas corporation enjoys a virtual monopoly of the onshore pipeline grid, and an effective monopoly of both the purchase and the supply of gas in the UK.

The powers given to the Secretary of State were very wide. An order would be brought forward under the negative procedure to reveal what great changes were

## Thatcher on rape case sentencing

## PM'S QUESTIONS

It was vital that women should have confidence in the ability of the law to protect them against rape. Mrs Margaret Thatcher, Minister, said at question time she welcomed the recent sent by Lord Chief Justice.

That rape was always a minor crime which, except in regional circumstances, called for an immediate custodial sentence.

Mr Alan Beith (Berwick-upon-Tweed, L) said there was enormous public concern over sentencing in rape cases, over the failure of the Crown to proceed in the recent Glasgow case, and over unsympathetic police interrogation of victims as shown on television last night.

With the Prime Minister add to the welcome statement of the Lord Chancellor and the Lord Chief Justice some indication of the seriousness with which the Government views the matter.

Is she prepared to carry out a review of the application of the law in rape cases and will she encourage the authorities to set up special units to deal with this odious crime?

Mrs Thatcher: It is vital that women should have confidence in the ability of the law to protect them against this violent, distasteful, and I use Mr Beith's words, odious crime, and to see that persons are found guilty who have committed it.

I shared the welcome add gave to the Lord Chief Justice's proposal on sentencing for rape. He said forcibly that rape was always a serious crime and except in wholly exceptional situations called for an immediate custodial sentence.

He also share his concerns about moves shown on television last night, and I understand that the relevant police authority accepts

the warranted criticism about the ways in which these cases were handled. Beyond that it would be best to leave the Lord Chancellor to deal with these matters, and the Royal Bank of Scotland, because there has been advice and that will be reviewed — to leave the Lord Chancellor to deal with these matters in his inimitable and definitive way.

**Bank system must not stay frozen**

The structure of the banking system in the United Kingdom must not remain frozen. Mrs Margaret Thatcher, Prime Minister, told Dr David Owen, the Secretary of State for the Monopolies and Mergers Commission to recommend against two takeover bids for the Royal Bank of Scotland applied to that particular case only.

Sir Paul Bryson (Howden, C) had asked: Will she consider the situation which a Conservative secretary of state has approved the findings of the Monopolies

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**Sixth form systems on their merits**

Sir Keith Joseph, Secretary of State for Education and Science, agreed during questions that his department should remain neutral on all schemes for sixth form re-organisation. These should be left on their merits.

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Sir Keith Joseph: All statutory proposals relating to such colleges will be considered on their merits, in the light of any objections, our general policies for education, including those set out in the draft circular issued for consultation on November 24, 1981, and all matters relevant to the case.

Mr Alan Beith (Berwick-upon-Tweed, L) had asked for a statement on the minister's policy on sixth-form and tertiary colleges.

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## Tough measures blunt effects of Indian strike

From Trevor Fishlock, Delhi, Jan 19

Mrs Gandhi's Government dealt firmly today with the main sections of the nationwide general strike called by its opponents. By the time the strike started more than 6,000 union officials and strike organizers had been arrested, and hundreds more were rounded up during the day.

No doubt the Government's pre-emptive action blunted the effectiveness of the strike. But organizers declared themselves satisfied that an important nationwide demonstration over rising prices and anti-strike laws had been made. There were clashes in several parts of the country and two men were killed by police.

This was India's first general strike. It was organized by opposition parties and Mrs Gandhi was bound to react strongly to such united action. In her view, the only common ground in the opposition camps is

that the Government's policy of the European oil

should have to be ended.

Although termed a general strike, it was never intended to be total. The organizers expected emergency services and hospital and milk distribution staff.

The Indian Trades Union Congress, with 3,000 affiliated unions, opposed the strike. In most places transport networks normally and many factories were able to open. But some factories, banks and insurance offices were closed. Only one newspaper was being published in Delhi tonight.

The two national news agencies were closed by the strike and it was therefore difficult to make a nation-wide assessment. The only national news organization working was the Government-controlled All-India Radio, which reported that the strike "evoked little response" and that life was mostly normal.

But it was conceded that the strike had been largely effective in Calcutta, India's biggest city, and in other parts of West Bengal. This state has a Communist government.

Demonstrators squatted on railway tracks and trains were delayed. In a clash between strikers and strike opponents in Calcutta 25 people were injured. Trams and buses were off the streets and the city was effectively paralyzed. A man was killed at Kalna, about 100 miles north-west of Calcutta, when police fired on a crowd.

In South India a man was killed at Thanjavur, 180 miles south of Madras, when police opened fire at a road block.

In the city of Hyderabad, Andhra Pradesh, police used tear gas and batons to deal with crowds.

The strike had little effect in Madras, where, as in Delhi and most other large centres, shops and markets stayed open.

The strike organizers wanted their action to be a protest against the National Security Act, which provides for detention without trial, and the essential services maintenance act, designed to prevent strikes.

Mr George Fernandes, the Socialist Party leader, said that the strike showed that issues had moved from Parliament to the streets and would continue to do so.



Red carpet treatment.

## Call-up to be extended in S. Africa

From Ray Kennedy  
Johannesburg, Jan 19

South Africa's military call-up system is to be revised to cope with an expected increase in attacks and attempts at subversion by guerillas of the African National Congress (ANC).

The review has been briefly outlined by General Constant Viljoen, the chief of the Defence Force. Its aim is to spread the burden of national service more fairly and to soften its impact on the economy and the disruption to the young men's career and education prospects.

The conscripts do two years' full-time service and attend eight annual camps of 30 days in the reserve. This is likely to be extended to 10 annual camps. The review would also involve strengthening home Guard commando units.

Sabotage last year reached a peak with nearly 60 bombing or other attacks on strategic targets. By August the cost was estimated at 10m Rand (55.5m). There were at least 20 further incidents before the end of the year.

The last was on December 25 on a police station about five miles from the centre of Pretoria. A policeman was killed and four wounded. Government offices, railway lines and electrical power stations were the prime targets of attacks throughout the country.

Two members of the United States Senate subcommittee on security and terrorism, Senator Joe Lieberman and Senator Burt Milling, are in South Africa "to determine the threat posed to South Africa by involvement of the Soviet Union in terrorist activities."

The subcommittee, headed by Senator Jeremiah Denton of Alabama, was set up soon after President Reagan took office, and Mr Alexander Haig, the Secretary of State, affirmed that the Soviet Union was "involved in conscious policies which foster, support and expand international terrorism".

General Viljoen has said in a magazine interview that during 1982 the Defence Force will prepare and put into action an "area defence" system in South West Africa (Namibia). He said 90 per cent of incidents happened between 12 and 18 miles of the border with Angola, but in South Africa, the guerrillas were waging what he called an "area war."

## Rawlings wages holy war

From Godfrey Morrison, Accra, Jan 19

Flight Lieutenant Jerry Rawlings, Ghana's military ruler, intends to transform this country's political and economic systems, even if it means a turbulent future for his fellow citizens.

Speaking last night at his first press conference since the Provisional National Defence Council (PNDC) seized power in a military coup on New Year's Eve, Flight Lieutenant Rawlings said a national team of ministers would be announced composed of "people who are competent, committed and of spotless integrity".

Asked how long he thought his programme, which includes "a holy war" against corruption and the rebuilding of the shattered economy, would take to carry out, he said: "So long as one single productive member of this society should remain without his basic needs — food

and shelter, education — there will be no peace in this country, and I would say: 'Let there be no peace'."

On the evidence of his public pronouncements so far and of last night's press conference, Flight Lieutenant Rawlings is a man more at home with political and philosophical generalities than with specifics.

Asked by a Nigerian journalist how he intended to carry out his good intentions, which resembled those of many other African leaders, Flight Lieutenant Rawlings said: "This is Ghana in the sense that the purity of thought and action of the mass of the people here, if permitted to flourish, would be too beautiful". Many corrupt businessmen had not wanted to get involved in corrupt practices during the period of the ousted regime of President Jerry Rawlings, but many had "been forced

to bury their own conscience in order to survive".

This is the second time Flight Lieutenant Rawlings has ruled Ghana. In June, 1979 he ruled for nearly four months, after a coup, before helping to install the civilian elected Government of Dr Limann.

During President Limann's period of rule Flight Lieutenant Rawlings complained of harassment by the security services and he spoke very bitterly of them at last night's press conference. He said the former regime had employed armed thugs

Observers here said the announcement of a well balanced ministerial team to serve under the seven-man PNDC, most of whose members are unknown to the public, would do much to build confidence in the new regime. The uncertainty about its intentions have begun to worry many people

## Letter from the Seychelles

## Socialist haven in troubled waters

Liberty, Equality, Fraternity will persist that another will the slogan of the attempt may be made. Mr French Revolution, adorns the Minister for Defence, has said that continued vigilance is necessary because the enemy is still planning acts of aggression. In the background is the exiled President James Mancham, the exiled ex-President deposed in 1977, the year after the Seychelles became independent of Britain, who has made no secret of his desire to return.

The effects on tourism, one of the mainstays of this micro-economy, have so far been minimal. In spite of the curfew, hotels were fully booked for the Christmas new year period. In fact, the restriction was not so irksome as it might seem. Night life in the main island of Mahe is mostly limited to hotels, where guests join in the local sega and other rhythmic dances.

Nevertheless, the outlook for tourism over the next few months is not rosy. Hotels report a fall in bookings, as part of a process which began in November 1980, well before the coup attempt. This appears to be caused by several factors.

On the other hand, sailors from two Soviet warships in Victoria Bay have mingled little with the population, ambling through the streets or round the botanical gardens in groups escorted by a petty officer. The third country is Tanzania, whose tall, dark-skinned soldiers help with security checks and curfews.

But if the ideals of the French Revolution are kept alive, the mercenaries are no Scarlet Pimpernel. Seven, including two Britons, are in custody awaiting trial. As for the 45 who escaped back to South Africa by hijacking an Indian jet, the Seychelles is hoping that international organizations and the press will see that justice is done.

A United Nations Security Council mission to investigate the origin, background and financing of the 25 November mercenary aggression is due to report by the end of January, and the International Civil Aviation Organization has condemned the hijacking and called on members — including South Africa — to "implement appropriate measures".

If those in South Africa escape punishment, the fear

John Earle

## Jail suitable for Abbott, Mailer says

From Michael Hamlyn  
New York, Jan 19

Norman Mailer, a writer testified briefly in court yesterday in the support of Jack Abbott, the prison author on trial for murder in New York.

Mr Mailer said that he and Mr Abbott began corresponding after the publication of his book *The Executioner's Song*. He encouraged the publication of Mr Abbott's letters as a cry from the heart of the prison system as in *The Belly of the Beast*, and helped to obtain his release from prison last summer.

After his testimony, Mr Mailer faced a hostile set of questions at a meeting with reporters. He said that he hoped Mr Abbott would not receive a maximum sentence if found guilty of killing a young waiter outside Manhattan restaurant.

"It would destroy him," Mr Mailer said. He did say, however, that he did not believe that Mr Abbott was ready to live quietly in New York society, and thought that a return to prison would be appropriate. Mr Mailer was heavily pressed whether he felt remorse about the death of the waiter, Richard Adan. He said: "It is a hideous waste. It is a horror."

Mr Abbott has admitted stabbing Mr Adan in a dispute after he was refused permission to use a staff lavatory at the restaurant. He said that the stabbing was a tragic misunderstanding. Sections of his book were read to him in court by the prosecuting counsel, Mr James Fogel.

After Mr Fogel read one passage which said that killing was necessary in prison for an inmate to retain his manhood, Mr Abbott replied: "It is good isn't it?"

The judge indicated that the evidence will end today and the jury will consider their verdict tomorrow.

## More Maoist doctrines spurned

From David Bonavia, Peking, Jan 19

More and more hallowed doctrines of Mao Tse-Tung are being discarded as China's leadership discounts his achievements in peace-time military policy, in historical theory, and in his policy towards intellectuals, artists and writers.

Mao's economic policies from 1957 onwards have already been thoroughly discredited, as have his theories about the existence and even the regeneration of a bourgeois class within the Communist Party itself.

Almost the only area of his latter-day thinking still considered correct is his realignment of China with the West since the early 1970's and his bitter feud with the Soviet Union.

A new twist has been added with the discussion of the historical development of the class system in China, and the existence of slaves in antiquity.

It was the contention of scholars loyal to Mao that "labour created man." At the site where the remains of Peking Man (about 500,000 BC) were found, there is a museum which is devoted to proving this point.

However, more recent scholarship in China holds that apes could not evolve

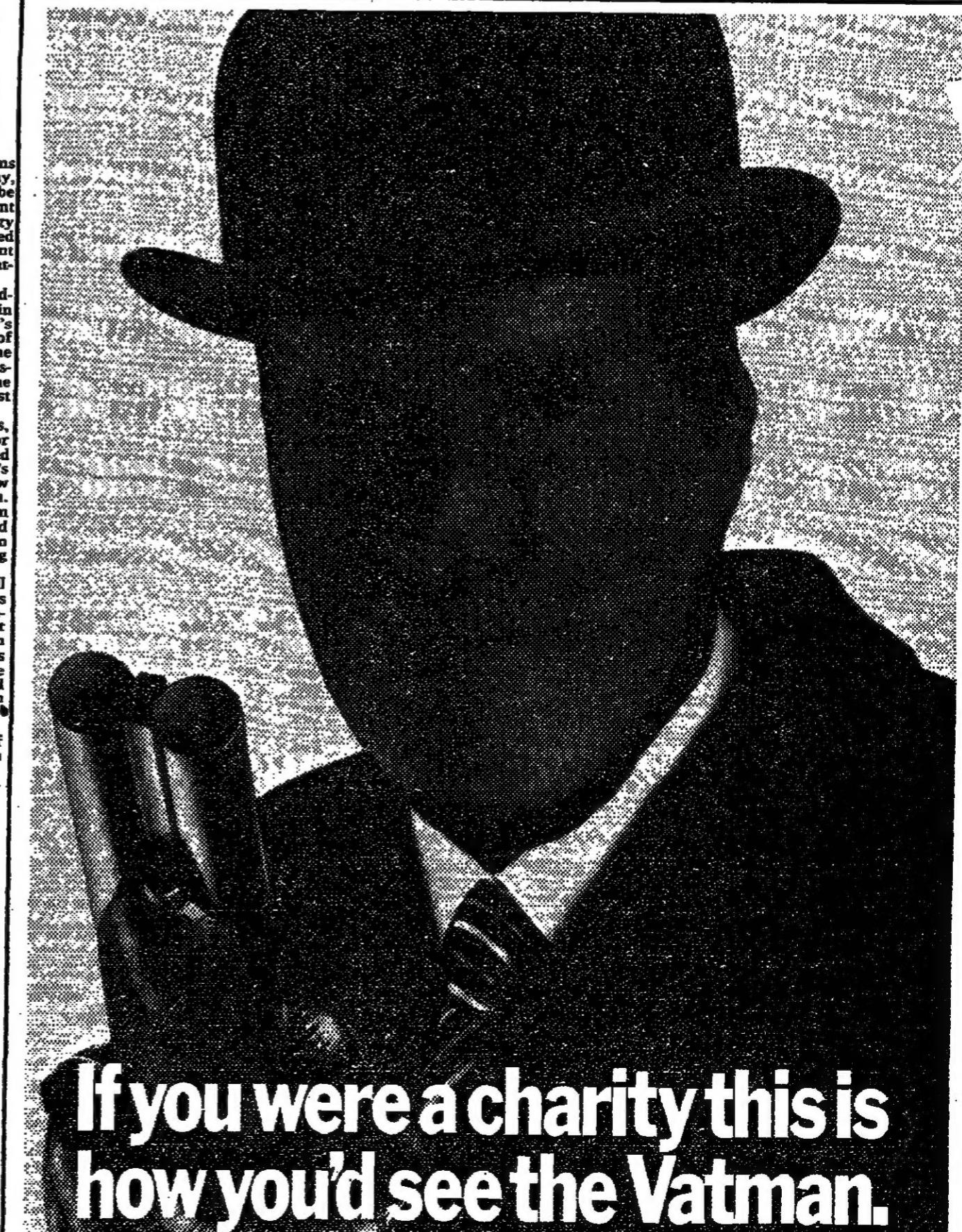
This idea is linked to the theory of the erstwhile Gang of Four, believed to have been supported by Mao, to the effect that the Communist Party and the working-class would go on engendering "bourgeois" elements for an indefinite period, even after the establishment of full Communism.

Perhaps the most important set of Maoist ideas being rejected now is the concept that the armed forces are more effectively trained with political zeal and guerrilla tactics, than with technical skills, discipline, and modern equipment.

Long schooled by Mao to think of themselves as the purest exponents of Socialism and Communism, the military have in recent years seen their budget slashed, their political prejudices attacked by the Communist Party, and their prestige and material privileges curtailed.

The Maoist assertion that ancient China was a slave-owning society is also questioned. Previously it was considered an essential item in the Chinese historical credo.

Another dogma attacked in the media these days is Mao's contention that society could retrogress, at least in the short and medium term, before advancing again in the long term.



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**NEWS IN  
SUMMARY**

**Atlanta jury  
watches  
slide show**

Atlanta. — The prosecution began to get to the heart of the case against Wayne Williams, accused of the murder of two of the 28 young blacks whose deaths terrorized Atlanta, Georgia, last year.

They set up a slide projector and a huge screen in front of the jury box to show the dog hairs and carpet fibres they claim link Mr Williams to his alleged victims, and they called to the stand an expert from Du Pont, the chemical company, to tell the jury how the fibres are made.

Detailed and painstaking forensic work has resulted in the matching of fibres and dog hairs taken from the bodies of the two victims, and from some of the other victims too, to similar fibres taken from Williams's car, the prosecution says.

Mr Williams, a freelance photographer, with aspirations to be a tax scout, is accused of murdering Nathaniel Carter, aged 27, and Jimmy Ray Payne, aged 21, and dumping their bodies into the Chattahoochee River.

**Special dock for  
hijack trial**

Officials have begun working on the accommodation problem that will arise when the 45 mercenaries charged with the armed hijack of an Air India Boeing from the Seychelles in November go on trial in the Natal Supreme Court in Pietermaritzburg.

Mr C. T. Verwey, the registrar, said a special dock enclosed in wood and glass would be used. It was built originally for the trial in 1979 of 13 men and was enlarged to accommodate the 45 mercenaries. The trial is due to begin on March 10 and will be heard by Mr Justice Neville James, acting Judge president of Natal, and two assessors. There is no jury system in South Africa.

**Plea to Russia  
by Lady Coggan**

Lady Coggan, the wife of the former Archbishop of Canterbury, who has appealed to President Brezhnev for exit visas to be granted to the seven Siberian Pentecostalists who have spent the past three-and-a-half years in the American Embassy in Moscow.

In her message, which the Soviet Embassy in London later refused to accept, she said that she had been horrified at the inhumane treatment the Vashchenko and Chymkhalov families have endured over the past 18 years, spent in prison or psychiatric hospitals.

**Greece renews  
Soviet ship deal**

Athens. — The Greek Government said it had consented to the renewal of an agreement for the repair and maintenance of unarmed Soviet Navy auxiliary ships in a Greek shipyard.

The original agreement was concluded in 1979 between the Soviet Navy and Neorion shipyard on the island of Syros, which is controlled by the National Bank of Greece. The contract was cancelled a year later after objections by NATO.

The ships must be used only for carrying food, medicines, or fuel, must be crewed by civilians and not carry guns or electronic devices.

**Trade unionist held  
in detention 11 years**

Kuala Lumpur. — A trade unionist released after 11 years detention under Malaysia's security laws called on the Government to free all political detainees or put them on trial.

Mr Nada Rajah, aged 43, told a press conference that political prisoners were treated worse than criminals. He said he spent 21 hours a day in solitary confinement for the last four years of his detention.

**Container stolen**

Lagos. — A gang of armed robbers on a bogus Nigeria Airways bus forced their way on to the tarmac of Lagos airport and stole a complete container about to be hoisted on board a Sabena flight. The contents and value of the container were not immediately known.

**Belgian jets collide**

Brussels. — Two Belgian F16s collided at high altitude and crashed south of Rochefort in the Ardennes. One pilot ejected safely but the other is missing.

# Reagan blunder on race forces a policy U-turn

From Peter David of "The Times Higher Educational Supplement", Washington, Jan 19

Acting swiftly to mend a breach with black civil rights organizations, President Reagan yesterday sent a Bill to Congress which would repeal a new policy on school segregation introduced by his Administration less than two weeks earlier.

The episode began 11 days ago when the Justice and Treasury Departments said they would be dropping a rule, imposed in 1970 by President Nixon, which denied charitable status and tax exemptions to private schools openly practising racial discrimination.

The measure had been approved by the White House and announced without fanfare. But it has rapidly grown into a major political blunder, unleashing ferocious criticism from veteran civil rights groups and forcing the President to issue a personal statement reaffirming its opposition to racism and claiming that the Government's motives had been misunderstood.

In a statement issued four days after the new policy was announced, President Reagan said he remained "unalterably opposed" to racial discrimination in any form. He had agreed to change the 12-year-old tax policy only because it yielded excessive power to the Internal Revenue Service.

"I would not knowingly contribute to any organization that supports racial discrimination. My record and the record of this Administration are clear on this point," he said.

"I am also opposed to administrative agencies exercising powers that the constitution assigns to Congress. Such agencies, no

## Supreme Court overturns juvenile's death sentence

From Nicholas Ashford, Washington, Jan 19

The Supreme Court, in a decision which represents a victory for opponents of capital punishment, ruled by five votes to four today that courts must consider a defendant's age and emotional background when imposing the death penalty on a juvenile.

The court had considered the case of Monty Lee Eddings who was sentenced to death for fatally shooting an Oklahoma highway patrolman near Tulsa in 1977. Mr Eddings was aged 16 at the time.

The court overturned the sentence because it had been imposed without full consideration of certain mitigating evidence that might have pointed to life imprisonment as the appropriate sentence.

Led by Justice Lewis Powell, the court's majority stated that "when the defendant is 16 years old at the time of the offence, there can be no doubt that evidence of a turbulent family history, beatings by a harsh father and of severe emotional disturbance is particularly relevant".

Mr Justice Powell added: "We are not unaware of the extent to which minors engage increasingly in violent crime. Nor do we suggest an absence of legal responsibility where crime is committed by a minor. We are concerned here only with the manner of the imposition of

a juvenile.

The ruling does not alter Mr Eddings' conviction, but makes necessary a new sentencing procedure in which certain personal factors will have to be considered. It is possible that Mr Eddings could be sentenced to death once more.

Joining Justice Powell in the majority was Justice Sandra Day O'Connor, who was appointed by President Reagan last year, the first woman to sit on the Supreme Court.

## Koivisto win a turning point

From Olli Kivinen, Helsinki, Jan 19

The stunning victory of Mr Mauno Koivisto, the Social Democratic Prime Minister, in Finland's presidential election was generally regarded today as the country's most important post-war political turning point.

Mr Koivisto stood as his party's candidate, but he stayed aloof of the Social Democratic Party and won votes from all the other contending parties. He secured 43.3 per cent of the votes, which is unheard of in a closely contested poll. Usually the Social Democrats can win about 25 per cent of the popular vote.

With this landslide vote Mr Koivisto got 145 electors in the 301-strong Council of Electors. Although he is six short of the 152 electors needed for outright victory, his election to the presidency by the Council on January 26 appeared certain last night, when the Euro-communist wing of the Communist Party declared that it would support Mr Koivisto. Electors belonging to other parties also appear tempted back to Mr Koivisto instead of their own candidates.

In internal policies the possibility of the Mitterrand phenomenon being repeated in Finland is generally regarded as being remote. The Electoral council, no candidate receives 151 or more votes in the first ballot, the electors must have a second round. If no majority candidate emerges at the third ballot then the top contender of the second round is selected for the presidency.

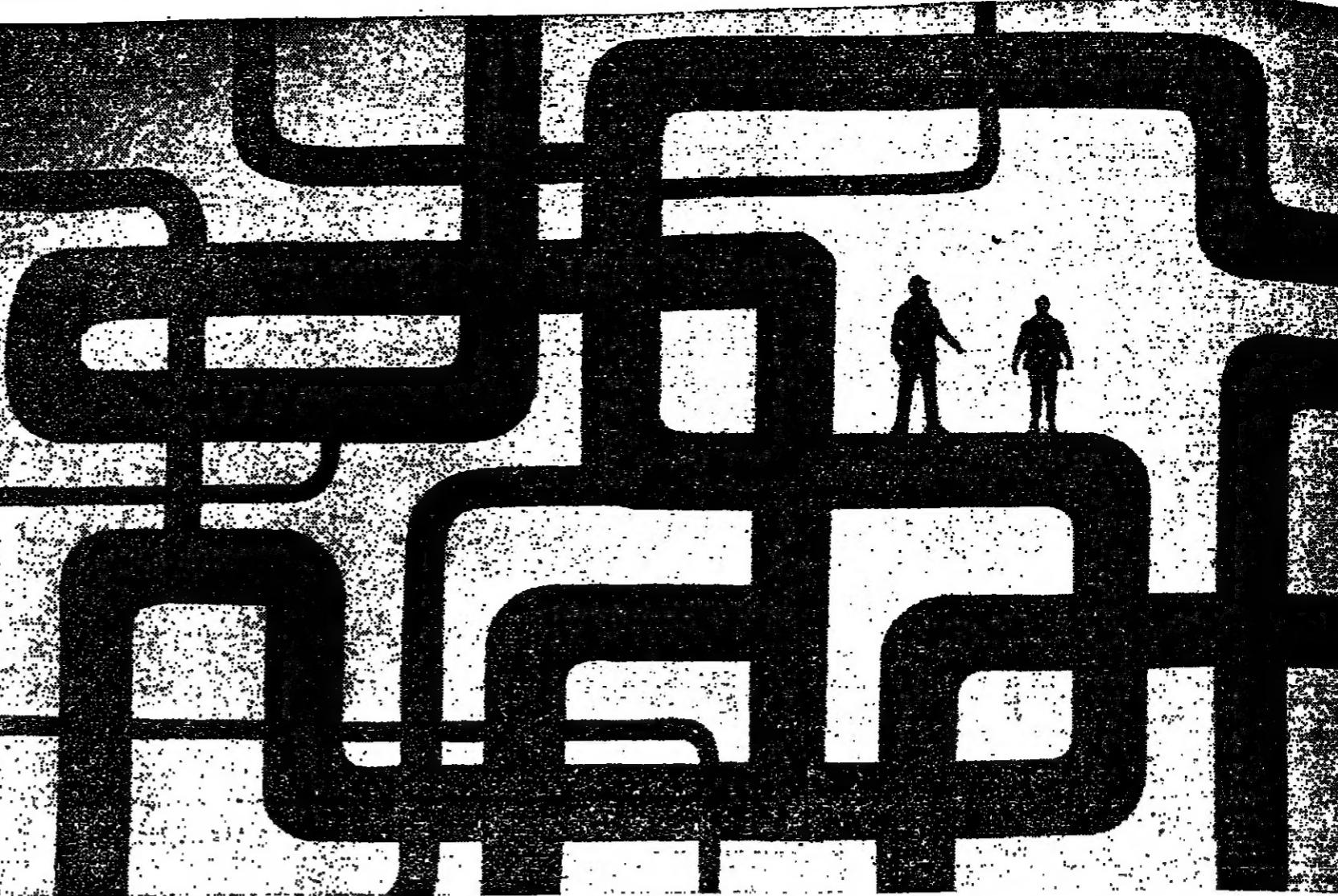
The country has been moving to the right, and the Communists' continued downhill slide means that the non-Socialist parties are not likely to lose their present dominant position in Parliament.

Moment of triumph: Mr Mauno Koivisto, with his wife, celebrating his election victory

foreign policy based on neutrality and good relations with all neighbours, especially the Soviet Union. This is a consensus policy supported by all political parties.

In internal policies the possibility of the Mitterrand phenomenon being repeated in Finland is generally regarded as being remote. The Electoral council, no candidate receives 151 or more votes in the first ballot, the electors must have a second round. If no majority candidate emerges at the third ballot then the top contender of the second round is selected for the presidency.

The court may well have been influenced by the experience of the Huta Warszawa trial, when three men were accused of organizing strikes



Water maze: Engineers are dwarfed by pipes at a waterworks in Moscow. The total length of the plant's piping, at 4,650 miles is double the total length of Moscow's streets. The Moskva and Volga rivers supply the water.

## Fears over ending of ETA truce

From Richard Wigg  
Madrid, Jan 19

A leading Basque left-wing politician today expressed alarm that the politico-military wing of ETA, the Basque separatist movement, might return to large scale terrorism after breaking its truce of almost a year by kidnapping the father of Señor Julio Iglesias, the singer.

While Señor Leopoldo Calo Sotelo, the Prime Minister, today was personally fêting the policemen who early on Sunday rescued Dr Iglesias after 19 days in captivity, Señor Mario Onaindia warned Basques of the big risks involved for democracy in breaking the truce.

Senor Onaindia heads the Euskadi Eskerra party, which has been closest hitherto to ETA's politico-military wing and helped bring about the truce immediately after last February's unsuccessful military coup shock the Basque country.

He was referring to the admission made to Basque media last night by a spokesman who said that ETA's politico-military wing has carried out the "arrest" of Dr Iglesias because of the organization's "permanent need of funds."

Dr Iglesias flew off to join his son in Miami today after giving Spain's police chiefs dinner last night in a famous Madrid restaurant. According to gossip columnists the bill, including famous "Vega Sicilia" wines, came to over £1,000. He chose that wine because, he said, he saw his kidnappers drinking it.

One revolver has been stolen between Bayonne, south-west France, and Liège in Belgium and they could have found their way to the Basque guerrilla organization ETA, police said here. — Reuter..

## Poland: Carrington's analysis

### Why Russia fears Nato stand

By David Cross

There was no doubt that the Soviet Union was "very worried" about Western reaction to the imposition of martial law in Poland, Lord Carrington, the Foreign Secretary, said yesterday.

In a forceful defence of Western policy towards the Polish crisis Lord Carrington said that the very fact that NATO foreign ministers met in Brussels last week induced the Polish martial law authorities to lift censorship on Western reporters and to meet Archbishop Józef Glemp, the head of the Roman Catholic Church.

The outcome of the Nato meeting was to send an important signal to Moscow that if it went any further in Poland, "certain other things will happen". These could well be a "total failure" of détente, the suspension of East-West arms talks and a cancellation of American grain deals with the Soviet Union.

Lord Carrington described the last 18 months of Polish moves towards democracy as

members of the committee that the Polish crisis had led to another rift in the Western alliance. An agreement by Nato and EEC member states to withhold further credits to Poland and to refuse to discuss the rescheduling of Polish debts to the West were "very considerable sanctions in the widest sense of the word", Lord Carrington said.

The Foreign Secretary added that the sanctions would remain in force until such time that the Polish authorities met the three conditions laid down by the West — the lifting of martial law, the release of all detainees, and the resumption of the dialogue between the Government and the church and Solidarity, the suspended independent trade union movement. It was now up to Warsaw to deliver these three requirements and the West would then be prepared to review the situation.

Lord Carrington described the last 18 months of Polish moves towards democracy as

"the beginning of a rebellion against a totalitarian regime. What we have seen since December 13 (when the state of emergency was declared) has been the repression of that".

Now the West was telling Warsaw that the dialogue must be allowed to continue without a solution being imposed either from outside or by a totalitarian government.

Taking issue with the suggestion that the West would abandon further action against Poland or the Soviet Union, Lord Carrington said that Nato officials responsible for economic affairs would be meeting in Brussels on Saturday, or next Tuesday, to discuss various sanctions against Moscow. These would be similar to those already announced by President Reagan in Washington.

Israel confirmed the overnight but said that no missiles had been fired at the aircraft, according to reports from the pilots. Syrian radio ignored the incident, mentioning only that Israeli aircraft had flown over Beirut.

Israel jets regularly overfly Lebanese territory, and Israel insists this is necessary in order to have early warning of any attack by Palestinian forces based in Lebanon. But it is believed that today's flight was the first over the Bekaa valley since the ceasefire between Israel and the Palestinians last July.



## Sharon in Cairo talks

Cairo, Jan 19. — Mr Avi Sharon, Israel's Defence Minister, today discussed the final withdrawal of Israeli troops from the Sinai peninsula next April with President Hosni Mubarak of Egypt. The hour-long meeting at the Presidential Palace here was the first between an Israeli Cabinet minister and Mr Mubarak since he became President after the assassination of President Sadat in October.

Their discussions preceded a final session of talks with Mr Kamal Hassan Ali, the Egyptian Foreign Minister, at which the two sides had completed the details of the withdrawal. Mr Sharon is here for three days of talks to settle outstanding problems about the evacuation from Sinai. An Israeli official said that details outstanding after today's talks would be dealt with by technical committees.

Yesterday, Mr Avi Sharon said they had resolved the main issues, identified as the dismantling of Israeli settlements; compensation for various installations; whether to station peacekeeping forces on two islands at the head of the Gulf of Aqaba; and demarcation of the frontier in the area of Rafah on the Mediterranean, and Tabeh, a coral reef resort in the Gulf of Aqaba.

Israel is withdrawing from Sinai as part of the Camp David peace agreement. Mr Sharon described the present talks as "very fruitful".

## Poland: The courts

### Activist given mild sentence

From Roger Boyes, Warsaw, Jan 19

A Polish court today sentenced a Solidarity activist to a two year suspended jail term for leading a strike at a nuclear research centre. Mr Andrzej Wisniewski, an engineer, was also fined 60,000 zloties (£1,300), ordered to pay 3,000 zloties to charity and to pay the court costs.

Despite the heavy fine, the sentence is relatively light for a Solidarity activist involved in strike actions in the week following the imposition of martial law. Other activists accused of organizing strikes have received sentences of up to seven years with no right of appeal.

The court may well have been moved to the right, and the Communists' continued downhill slide means that the non-Socialist parties are not likely to lose their present dominant position in Parliament.

action at the Huta Warszawa steel works on Dec 14 and 15. Two of the men, Solidarity members, were acquitted because it proved to be impossible to distinguish between spontaneous protest action and organized strike action.

At Mr Wisniewski's trial this too proved to be the main defence case, and charges of strike organizing had to be dropped. Instead he was found guilty of the much milder charge of managing a strike.

Several witnesses testified that Mr Wisniewski had appealed for calm when riot police came in to break up the strike, which involved only a fraction of the total 700 workforce. Other mitigating factors appeared to be that the strike was against interment and not martial

law as such, and that Mr Wisniewski had a record of good behaviour in the research centre.

However, the trial — which was held in a normal and not a summary court — yielded some interesting facts about the scope of Solidarity's organization in the scientific and intellectual community. Even though this research centre ranks as one of the most secret in Poland, 600 out of the 700 workers were Solidarity members.

It is by no means clear whether the authorities will be able to dismiss specialist workers who are also Solidarity members and refuse to renounce the union. Many scientists at nuclear research centres are obviously difficult to replace.

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## ROVER ADVANCING THE DRIVING EXPERIENCE



Thames Valley police questioning the woman who said she had been raped.

## What rape tells us about 'predatory' view of women

By staff reporters in London, New York and Paris

Despite the furor raised by the recent fine on a rapist, followed by Monday's BBC film of police grilling a woman victim, Britain is not especially lenient on rapists. In terms of the severity of its sentences, we are somewhere between the Scandinavians who are very severe and the Dutch who are lenient. We are roughly similar to the English-speaking and the European countries, according to Professor Terence Morris, a criminologist with the London School of Economics.

But *The Times*, inquiry yesterday did suggest that Britain is a long way behind the United States, Germany and Sweden, in the way suspected rape victims are treated. That seems to be realized officially for all chief constables are now to receive a reminder from the Home Office on the treatment of rape victims.

Six years ago a Home Office advisory committee on the law on rape headed by Mrs Justice Heilbron noted that: "Complainants vary widely from the angry and resentful to the stunned and deeply distressed, but all expect help and many are probably reluctant to complain. Tactful and sympathetic interrogation is necessary. Experience and sympathy in the interrogator are more important than her sex."

In 1976 the Home Office issued guidance based on that note. Yesterday it announced that the guidance is to be repeated with some elaboration in the hope that what television viewers watched in Monday's 40 minute Police programme can be avoided.

For viewers saw Thames Valley detectives aggressively question a woman complainant, ask for details of her sex life, accuse her of lying and use crude language.

It is understood that the Home Office guidance will also point out that if a case goes to court women do not have to give details of their sex life unless the judge orders them to. In the police film the Thames detectives suggested to the woman that she might face a very difficult ordeal in court with the implication that her sex life would have to be discussed.

There are no comparative international studies of rape sentencing, according to Professor Morris, but the trends do seem clear. In Denmark, rapists are often offered reduced sentences in return for agreeing to the operation, which is castration, while in Sweden maximum security imprisonment is the norm.

The Dutch, by contrast, strive for non-custodial sentences as a matter of national policy in virtually all criminal cases where severe psychopathology is not established. Holland is "the only country in the Western world" to take that approach to rape, said Professor Morris.

What struck him most forcefully in America studies of rape, however, was the universality of the victim's experience: hostility and suspicion from the police, "exactly what rape victims here have been saying for years". Those "astonishing similarities" showed something he thought about the West's "predatory attitude" towards women.

Under the French penal code prison sentences for rape are 5 to 10 years, unless weapons or particularly vulnerable persons are involved, when the sentence is from 10 to 20 years. In Britain over the past decade an average 17 per cent of reported rapists have been sentenced to up to 2 years, around half of them to between two and four years, and 26 per cent to four to seven years.

In the United States where there is no brutality the judge is likely to hand down a suspended sentence. There is no typical sentence and the individual judge takes into account many variables. Sentences range up to 25 years. The latest figures from *Forbes* show that in 1979, 435 rapists were given prison sentences, out of around 1,700 cases brought to the courts.

Another leading criminologist, a woman, emphasized

that the Americans, if similar in sentencing, had a distinct lead in counselling. "Here it is the attitude of the investigating officers that have to be changed. Police in the States do have specially trained teams of men and women officers. We are only just beginning to think on these lines."

Mr James Jardine, chairman of the Police federation, agreed. He thought the problem shown in the programme could be allayed by using more women officers. Sex equality legislation had integrated them into the service and lost their expertise.

Thames Valley had said it may follow the example of several other forces in Britain and use police women in special units.

All day yesterday Britain's relatively few Rape crisis centres, there are 20 were flooded with telephone calls from women angry at what they had seen on the television programme. In addition Thames Valley had more than 200 calls and BBC about 70.

Rape crisis centres are run by women to assist victims. The Highgate centre, which covers the whole of London had 821, compared with 689 the year before. Only a quarter of those who called had also made a complaint to the police.

Mr Wright's study identified the social characteristics of rapists and rape victims. He found that 60 per cent knew each other before the rape; that the majority of both came from the working class; that rapists tended to be young, and to have a record of other crimes, but no previous record of sexual offences.

Research in West Germany and Sweden into the police interrogation of suspected victims of sexual molestation shows the direct opposite of the police in the film. Mr Ray Bull, senior lecturer in psychology at North East London Polytechnic, who specialises in witness psychology, said: "The research shows that victims who were found to have been telling the truth did give a lot of irrelevant detail. Those found to have been lying often gave a lot of hard factual detail." Distress is not always shown overtly: "The factual filing system is often locked by emotion".

The research has led to changes in German police procedure. The police are encouraged to let the victim describe the events in her own words. "Police should not start stronger interrogation until they have the full story and some time has elapsed," Mr Bull said. "It is easy to confuse witnesses by putting things in their minds so soon after an emotionally disturbing event."

Mr Tony Black, clinical psychologist at Broadmoor, took up the point that the woman in the programme had a history of mental disorder. "Speaking as someone who interviews people with such histories I would not have gone about it that way. It could have been put to her without piling on the agony. The fact that she did not react in an emotional way did not mean she was fabricating. As a former depressed person she might try and separate herself from emotional distress."

Birmingham rape centre, the only 24-hour service outside London, reported that several women who telephoned yesterday had volunteered to work at the centre. Others said they had experienced similar treatment when they went to complain to the police of rape or sexual harassment.

On an 83 sample cases the centre recorded in the 12 months after October 1979, 45 had first been to the police before the centre and 33 did not report their case to the police. In the following year 43 of 99 cases failed to complain to the police.

The reason attributed to the level of formal complaints were many women's reluctance to face police questioning and an internal examination, often by a male police surgeon. Several had also been threatened with retaliation by the attacker if they reported the case or simply did not want anyone to know of the assault.

"Not everyone has had a bad time with the police and quite a few women have no complaints", the centre added.

"But overall there is a feeling of dissatisfaction, especially over the amount of time women may have to spend in the police station sometimes up to 12 hours, and the fact they may be asked very personal questions, even about their sexual history."

She said the Birmingham Rape Crisis Centre had received about 500 calls in the past 15 months from women complaining of all forms of sexual assault. But a policeman had told her that the average conviction rate in rape cases was one in 10.

Newcastle, which also received angry calls yesterday, said in its experience only one in four women victims who contacted them reported

to the police. The number of calls had increased in recent months.

How do the rape centre reports square with such research as there is? Dr Richard Wright, of the Institute of Criminology at Cambridge University, says that research studies vary in their estimates, from saying one rape in two is reported, to saying that only one case in a hundred is reported. He said: "Most criminologists would agree that rape is an unreported crime compared with burglary which is over-reported." In his own research he found that the police "obviously do not believe a great number of the complaints made." The police files he had investigated showed in 20 per cent of cases victims were not believed.

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Whitehall portrait: Department of the Environment

## Tarzan tames his jungle

In the week that Michael Heseltine asks Parliament once again for new powers to control local government spending, David Walker and Bernard Donoughue look at his reign as Secretary of State at the huge Department of the Environment.

When Churchill sent Harold Macmillan to the Ministry of Local Government and Planning in 1951, he said it was a gamble. "It will make or mar your political career. But every humble home will bless your name if you succeed."

Macmillan built houses. He also shook up his civil servants and transformed the functional basis of his Ministry of Housing and Local Government.

Michael Heseltine, sent unwilling by Mrs Thatcher to the old Ministry's successor, the Department of the Environment, was given no brief to build. He has been fighting hard in Cabinet for the devastated construction industry; his own controversial creations, the urban development corporations for London and Liverpool.

The DoE department, preoccupied by its 20,000-strong empire of professional planners (now with a jaded, dated air about them); engineers; and pollution specialists. DoE does water, nuclear waste, and rural life. Poor Mr Heseltine was landed with the snow, DoE a weather department and covers sport too.

But its essences are elsewhere. Once it covered the green fields of Northamptonshire, Buckinghamshire and Essex with new towns run by corporations completely subordinate to a DoE directorate. An important segment of the department's rising civil servants joined it in the 1960s when the new town and reconstruction idea was ramped.

On the municipal front, the ratepayers' traditional friends, have yet to bless Mr Heseltine's name.

But still his career has not been married, and may yet be made by what has been happening within and around the DoE.

His rhetorical battle for cost-effectiveness in Whitehall and in town and county halls has begun to educate and influence all but the most incorrigible Labour high-spenders. Environment Secretaries before him have all said the party was over; Mr Heseltine seems at last to be believed.

Heseltine is changing the shape of the DoE, slimming 15 per cent of total staff between April 1979 and November last. Tight management has arrived in the shape of his Management Information System (MINIS) and the civil servants like it.

Probably most important, Mr Heseltine, helped by the pressure of political and economic circumstance in recent years, has refashioned the role of the DoE. In effect it is a new ministry, one central to the political economy of the modern welfare state, skin in its sphere to the Treasury in the wider world: a ministry of local government finance.

Two examples illustrate the nature of the department's transformation. One was visible in the response to Toxics did seem to embody a departmental spirit. During the extraordinary fortnight spent on Middlesbrough by Mr Heseltine, Mr Peter Henson, the Second Permanent Secretary, and other officials, a visitor to their temporary headquarters high above the River Mersey in the Royal Liver Building could not help but be impressed by the sense of crisis teamwork, of common departmental aims.

These have to do, first, with the belief that there is a built, "environmental" element in welfare state provision. That, crudely put, the louts rioting on Parliament Street might have behaved differently if their homes had been differently built, repaired (or, the current conviction of ministers and officials, better managed by the local council).

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## Television

## Carter's last stand

The largest financial deal in history, \$8,000m in gold and securities to be transferred from the United States to the Bank of England and subsequently, less debts, to Iran and, at the last moment, it is all in the hands of a typist who cannot read English. It is the kind of predicament only reality can produce and it was one of the many elements that made BBC's *44 Days and Counting*, a compelling, almost incendiary piece of television last night.

Most of the action was in President Carter's office, which he was under notice to quit in five hours' time. He had hoped of completing the transfer and having the 52 hostages who had spent 444 days in captivity released during his term of office. It was not to be. Rituals are more inexorable than those concerned with money, as anyone who has tried to get traveller's cheques quickly knows.

In the Oval Office, President Carter, changing from jumper to jacket and back again, telling Rosalynn how things were, on and off the phone, exchanging small talk with a squad of advisers, all eager to help and helpless. When Carter's National Security Adviser, Zbigniew Brzezinski, started to measure flying distances on the globe, it was obvious that the great god technology was seeing this one out.

A lone television cameraman, Rolfe Tessier, filming it all, while the shutters of still cameras slurred in unison. It was an example of wide-open government to amaze posterity.

The Bank of England came in for a sickly early on. "We would like to know from the Bank of England," said Carter, "why they have held up our hostages an extra 15 minutes. Well they had not and how dare he?" Kit McMahon, deputy bank governor, quite understood the tension, but he explained to Margaret Jay, collecting reminiscences of the day, how technical discussion about the value of gold and securities had gone on until the last moment; how, even when that was done, the form of the necessary certificate had to be agreed . . . then there was that typist.

There was another kind of tension in BBC 1's *Play for Today*, *Under the Skin*. Janey Preger's mordant look at the disruptive effect of feminist ideas on women's lives. Frances Tomelty was the fashion editor, feminist but not prepared to dress down for it. Barbara Rosenblat the woman who was Jacqueline Tong the mother whose problems did not seem to come from feminism and who was last seen taking a lethal dose of pills.

It was well written, well acted, especially by Bill Nighy as the idiot fashion photographer, and confirmed my belief that it is best to approach women in boiler suits or ponchos with caution.

*Arena*, BBC 2, gave us a hymn to the *Cortina*, now nearly 20 years old, on its way out and for most of its years the ultimate ambition — in conjunction with a sheepskin coat — for so many road reps. It was imaginative at times almost to surrealism, was produced by Alan Yentob and directed by Nigel Finch, and, of course, did the Ford Motor Company no harm though it might have caused them a worry or two about the Cortina's successor.

The Cortina's successor on BBC 2 was Bentley and his work, a brilliant little documentary written and produced by John Selwyn Gilbert, whose play, *Aubrey*, will be on the same channel on Friday.

I do not know why Tuesday tends to be so beloved of programmers — maybe they could spread a little happiness — but the marvellously illustrated story with nearly all original drawings, was a graphic treasure.

In addition to the drawings, there was Bridget Brophy to reflect on his infantile sexuality. Brian Reade and Ralph Steadman to observe his innovative and still not entirely understood techniques, and a consultant

Victoria Wood is hoping her new comedy series for Granada will get the one-line gags out of her system. She also hopes going on the road with her husband will make him famous. And after all that she might settle down to write a new play in the autumn to follow up her three previous television triumphs. She spoke to Bryan Appleyard about the problems of being able to do only one thing at a time.

The lady who brought you *cog au vin* as love in a lorry is worried about the ease with which she churns out one-liners. The same lady, who also wrote "I wanna be fourteen again", wants to write a great song and to be able to invest lines like "pass the mustard" with real meaning.

She is, of course, Victoria Wood, who ambled dryly back to our television screens last Sunday with a five-show series of *Wood and Walters*, another alliance with Julie Walters. After that she goes on the road with The Great Soprendo, otherwise her magician husband Geoff Durham, with their show *Funny Turns* which reaches the West End in April. All of which means that Miss Wood, who sadly admits she can do only one thing at a time, has not been writing any plays, a significant loss for anybody who saw *Talent, Nearly Happy Ending* or *Happy Since I Met You* on television or *Good Fun* on stage. But there is hope.

"I think I'll lock myself away and write a stage play in the autumn," she told me. "With my last stage play I got a bit clever. I'll try something simpler this time. I need to develop my craftsmanship. One-liners are easy, getting a gag from the rhythm of words, but making sense of a line like 'pass the mustard' is difficult. I don't think I'm very good at that".

At 26, there is clearly time. Yet even if the mustard remains

infuriatingly meaningless, a thick pragmatic streak in her make-up tells her she can always fall back on her one-liners and her performing. For now, she hopes the television series has got the gags out of her system and three autumn months should result in a play. Pragmatism emerges again with the husband-and-wife show which she sees as developing Soprendo's career so that, between them they should achieve something like steady earnings. She has even accepted the possibility that she might have to leave her beloved Morecambe.

Behind all this lies an uncertainty stemming from the structure of her career. Having won the television talent contest *New Faces*, she appeared on *That's Life*, a largely unhappy memory, but really did nothing for three years until the play *Talent* had the word genius being carelessly thrown around.

"I feel so guilty about those three years. I signed up and did nothing. People saw me on *That's Life* and thought that was fine but they didn't actually want me to do that anywhere else". But the plays resulted in a higher-brow brand of

celebrity, though both she and her audience still have some difficulty identifying where she stands in the cultural class-structure. Further uncertainty arises from the death of Peter Eckersley, the producer of all her television work and who should have produced this new series. "He had lots of ideas for the series . . . but he never told me what they were. His value to me was inestimable. He had a marvellous eye for what was unnecessary and great attention to detail. He had liked the first material for the series but never saw any of the other stuff."

Her need for a strong injection of critical talent is still being fulfilled by Julie Walters — "She makes me laugh and she's good at her job, she's got great technique". In a sense it was a partnership that matured with *Happy Since I Met You*, a play that showed they did not rely on gags and that one-liners could be more than funny. Without that her recent playwriting inactivity may well have been put down to the exhaustion of her material on unhappy, frustrated and incomprehending women, preyed on by inadequate men.

"The first two plays were about women and that one was about a couple. Well I've been a woman and I'm one half of a couple so I can write about that. But I do wonder what else I can write about. A lot is based on my schooldays, which is the only time I've ever really been part of a group. We hardly see anybody now. Also it's easier to write from experience which is farther back in the past so that it's been assimilated, but once that's used up I don't know what comes next. Perhaps I'll just run out of things."

"People may also stop liking what you produce. It happens to be writing like a lot of other people at the moment in a kind of realistic vein. If the public stops being interested I won't get performed and then it will be back to the one-liners."

It is a disarmingly calm view of her own creativity. Life's little mishaps, so many of which she subjected her characters Maureen in the first two plays, would always underline her anyway. When we met, her train from Lancaster had been 2½ hours late. She had slept with anxiety in the taxi from Euston, but had pulled herself together sufficiently to win the game of *Just a Minute* she had travelled down to record for Radio 4. The iron discipline of a Day Return had, however, allowed her time for a leisurely tea.

London draws her two or three times a month — to drink with Julie Walters, to deal with work and recently to have lunch with Keith Waterhouse, a man to whom she wrote her one and only fan letter.

"Our first trip abroad together, to Spain, it pour'd all the time so Griff and I read *Office Life* to each other. I wrote the fan letter once when I broke off from writing in the middle of the night and read an article of his in a magazine. Like me he's a jolly person who writes about sad things. My dark side always comes out. It's funny because it's not how I feel when I wake up in the morning. But I suppose you can't make a joke about how much you love your husband, it wouldn't get a laugh."

## Galleries

## Subtleties at second glance

## 109th annual exhibition of watercolours and drawings

## Agnew's

It must say something for the endless riches of the English watercolour tradition that Agnew's can have been putting on shows like this for 109 years and do not yet seem to be anywhere near scraping the bottom of the barrel. And that, even though the great majority of the paintings on view, still, were done well before 1873, though obviously the tradition has continued even up to our own day, this part of the gallery's activities have little truth with it past mid-Victorian times.

Exception is made, of course, for the odd really striking late Victorian piece, like Briton Rivière's splendid black chalk drawing of a Greyhound, and even the occasional flash of shameless modernism like a couple of Gainsborough, the *Wooded Landscape with a Country Cart* in grey wash, and a *Girtin*, of the wrecked flank of *Conway Castle*, which sums up in the smallest

point of the show. It is possible to compass a whole world of Romantic melancholy on the subject of ruins. Some of the lesser figures also impress. James Holland's *The Rialto Bridge, Venice*, applies an already Victorian sensibility to an hackneyed view, in which the artist seems much less interested in the people in the shadow underneath. William Turner of Oxford's *The Moon Rising over Cader Idris* is an interesting study in near-monotony, almost abstract washes, but for the odd stag to give scale, and Edward Duncan's *The Coast at Shoreham* might almost be an illustration of Pegotty's boathouse, as well as an accomplished picture in its own right by an oddly neglected artist.

For connoisseurs of Victorian art proper there is a rare picture, *The Door Was Shut*, by Rosetti's friend James Smetham, and for connoisseurs of Georgian art improper, there are some spiky Rowlandsons. But it would be hard not to find something to like, if only you have time to stand and stare.

John Russell Taylor

Black chalk drawing by Briton Rivière

## Herbie Mann

## Ronnie Scott's

As the first man to make a living from playing jazz on the flute, Herbie Mann has shown a consistent ability to appeal to those listeners who would like to be jazz fans but who would run a mile from the sounds of Charlie Parker or Ornette Coleman. His method has been to combine jazz-like improvisation with fol-de-rol from sources either ethnic or fashionable: once the backdrop was Cuban drumming, later it became Muscle Shoals rhythm and blues, and so on.

Mann's latest project, which he calls his *Percussion Theatre*, is a quartet featuring Frank Gravis on bass-guitar, Bobby Thomas Jr on percussion and Badal Roy on Indian tabla drums. The basic procedure is simple, and is strongly reminiscent of that employed by the trumpeter Dennis Hackett

guitarists — Jack Bruce, Colin Hodgkinson, Percy Jones and Jaco Pastorius — who have expanded the vocabulary of the instrument, although Gravis's contribution has to do with his use of a synthesizer rather than his finger-work or his musical ideas.

The synthesizer enriches the timbre and harmonizes the root-note, usually sounding like a swarm of narcoleptic bumble-bees.

As so often in his own groups, Mann is the weak link. His tone is unpredictable, his phrasing creaky and his ideas third-hand or worse. The easy route is always taken to the audience's heart, whether in brooding, Moorish cadences or passages which sound like a sequence of Air India jingles. In very few ways does this music justify the meditative deliberation with which it is produced.

Gravis, a nimble performer, joins the list of base-

## Jazz

Jon Hassell on his recent *Fourth World Music* recordings: Thomas and Roy investigate a light, frothy fusion of African and eastern rhythms.

Gravis lays down a harmonic carpet (often using modal patterns which hark back to the influence of John Coltrane or psychedelic rock), and Mann twitters on top of the resulting confection.

Some of the individual components are admirable. Badal Roy, who once recorded with Miles Davis, seems to western ears utterly typical of his breed: the fingers flutter over the skins and each stroke of the flying cross-rhythms is crisply audible. Asking him to subdivide a simple 4/4 is like inviting Karenbohm to play "Chopsticks". Thomas, too, shows imagination and restraint, using his hands on tongs, cowbell and cymbals to colour the flow.

Gravis, a nimble per-

## Les Contes d'Hoffmann

## Royal Opera House

William Lewis, who sings the title role in the first and last performances of the current Covent Garden revival of Hoffmann, collected some appreciative notices over the weekend, including Hilary Finch's on this page. But there is no escaping the fact that the Opera House's Hoffmann is in common with a number of other productions of the work for Offenbach's centenary year, some of which made the date and others which did not, was planned with Plácido Domingo.

Gravis, a nimble per-

## Opera

cast proving yet again how easily he can move between totally different approaches to the story of Hoffmann's three loves. In John Schlesinger's London version Hoffmann spends the Prologue and Epilogue as a wreck, as dishevelled and drink-sodden a tramp as he was in Patrice Chéreau's famous staging for the Paris Opéra a decade ago. Yet Domingo, in sumptuous voice, also lets the poet be clearly seen through the boozy haze as the vision of Siebel interrupts the legend of Kleinzach, the story all the students in Luther's tavern demand to hear.

By placing the Antonia act last, as Schlesinger does, it is possible to chart Hoffmann's descent down the slippery slope. And that Domingo

does with considerable skill. Hoffmann is not usually seen as a feminist opera, but there are not many works where men ends up so humiliated.

The poet begins with youthful infatuation, seeing the bold Olympia quite literally through rose-coloured glasses; next comes lust with Giulietta; then finally there is just a tantalizing taste of love with Antonia before she listens to her mother's voice (unattractively sung at Covent Garden) and promptly dies.

The disadvantage is that Hoffmann's part in the Antonia sequence is weaker than in the other two acts. After hearing Domingo in Giulietta's Venice sing "O Dieu! de quelle ivresse" with such suppleness of tone Antonia's Munich comes as

something of a let down. The effect is magnified in this revival: Antonia and Dr Miracle both have powerful voices, but their acting is rudimentary and their French even worse. Schlesinger originally clearly cast with great care right down to the minor roles and in a production where detail, particularly in ensemble, is the order of the day those who either exaggerate or ignore the drama do so to their peril.

Even so the rest of the evening is mighty impressive. If Offenbach year did nothing else, at least it re-established in London and Salzburg *Les Contes d'Hoffmann* as the grandest of grand operas.

John Higgins

## Interview

## Victoria Wood: leaving the one-liners behind

Peter Alstrup



Victoria Wood at Brown's: "I've been a woman and I'm one half of a couple."

"The first two plays were about women and that one was about a couple. Well I've been a woman and I'm one half of a couple so I can write about that. But I do wonder what else I can write about. A lot is based on my schooldays, which is the only time I've ever really been part of a group. We hardly see anybody now. Also it's easier to write from experience which is farther back in the past so that it's been assimilated, but once that's used up I don't know what comes next. Perhaps I'll just run out of things."

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It is a disarmingly calm view of her own creativity. Life's little mishaps, so many of which she subjected her characters Maureen in the first two plays, would always underline her anyway. When we met, her train from Lancaster had been 2½ hours late. She had slept with anxiety in the taxi from Euston, but had pulled herself together sufficiently to win the game of *Just a Minute* she had travelled down to record for Radio 4. The iron discipline of a Day Return had, however, allowed her time for a leisurely tea.

London draws her two or three times a month — to drink with Julie Walters, to deal with work and recently to have lunch with Keith Waterhouse, a man to whom she wrote her one and only fan letter.

"Our first trip abroad together, to Spain, it pour'd all the time so Griff and I read *Office Life* to each other. I wrote the fan letter once when I broke off from writing in the middle of the night and read an article of his in a magazine. Like me he's a jolly person who writes about sad things. My dark side always comes out. It's funny because it's not how I feel when I wake up in the morning. But I suppose you can't make a joke about how much you love your husband, it wouldn't get a laugh."

## Theatre

## Stiff

## Soho Poly

As the last play commissioned by Verity Bargate and the first production of the Soho Poly's incoming artistic director (Adrian Shergold); there is a strong temptation to crack up Tony Marchant's play, which also has the reviewer over a barrel by treating the sad theme of compulsory rehousing.

In one sense, *Stiff* is exactly what you would expect: a melancholy study of an old married couple who have been dumped on the fifth floor of a south London council block with nothing to do and nobody to talk to. Mr Marchant knows his people inside out and sympathy goes without saying. However, the piece is not drenched in compassion. As much as making the obvious protest against the destruction of community life, it shows in detail the effect of that loss on two of the victims. And the simple fact that they have been "flew away like sheets of paper" proves a more dramatic device than any event-filled plot.

The gradual disclosure of evidence appears in writing of great tact and sensitivity which allows the characters to retain their self-respect after the lies have been exposed. Arthur Whynbrow and Edna Dore light up their bare cell with the sense of a lifetime's companionship and a show of fighting spirit even though their time has almost run out.

## Irving Wardle

## Barbican opening

The Barbican Centre will be officially opened by the Queen on March 3 to herald four days of celebrations marking the completion of the £143m arts centre.

She will unveil a commemorative plaque in the foyer, and then open two art exhibitions — *Aftermath, France 1945-54: New images of man* in the art gallery and *Contemporary Canadian Tapestries* in the concourse — organized by the French government.

In the evening simultaneous performances will be given before invited audiences by the London Symphony Orchestra and the Royal Shakespeare Company in their new homes — the Barbican Hall and the Barbican Theatre. The LSO, under principal conductor Claudio Abbado will perform Wagner's *Meistersinger Overture*, Beethoven's *Fourth Piano Concerto* (with Vladimir Ashkenazy), Elgar's *Cello*

## YMSO/Blair

## Festival Hall

James Blair and his Young Musicians Symphony Orchestra went well over the top on Monday, with Richard Strauss's Alpine Symphony, the most extravagant interpretation of all his sym

The council of the Confederation of British Industry will call today for a large increase in public spending

## Why Britain needs a New Deal

by Christopher Johnson

Fifty years ago Keynes opposed Treasury orthodoxy by advocating public works as a way out of the Depression. With hindsight, it looks obvious good sense. Yet when similar proposals are put forward for a public works programme in Britain today, the objections of the 1930s are still advanced as though Keynes had never lived.

It was Keynes's disciple, John Kenneth Galbraith, who coined the phrase "private affluence and public squalor" to remind the capitalist economies in the 1950s of the need for public investment on social as well as economic grounds. The Kennedy, Johnson and Wilson administrations of the 1960s took Galbraith's message to heart. Public investment in Britain rose from 7.8 per cent of gross domestic product (GDP) in 1962 to 10.4 per cent in 1967.

This may have been too high, but since then the pendulum has swung to the other extreme. Public investment has fallen to only 5.6 per cent of GDP in 1980, which has dropped by 38 per cent in real terms between 1975-76 and the 1981-82 planned figures. Capital spending should not take the lion's share of your existing investment, invites

cuts simply because it is the easy option", says Mr Leon Brittan, Chief Secretary to the Treasury. But both Labour and Conservative governments have over the last five years found it easier to cut public investment than to cut current expenditure on the pay of civil servants and local authority staffs.

With the Budget expected on March 9, the Chancellor has been urged to give priority to public investment by one study commissioned from the Economist Intelligence Unit (EIU) by the Federation of Civil Engineering Contractors, and another commissioned from Cambridge Econometrics by the Federation of Construction Industries and four other construction industry organizations. The Confederation of British Industry is expected to endorse similar proposals at its council meeting today.

The nationalized industries have suffered less than the rest of the public sector, with hardly any fall in their capital spending since 1975-76. They have put forward a number of projects which promise well over the 5 per cent real rate of return required from them by the Treasury. The much lower rate of return on their existing investment, invites

scepticism about the promises.

As the Government has begun to recognize in some cases, there is an argument for either finding ways of making the nationalized industries more efficient or giving those promising projects to the private sector, either in competition with or in cooperation with the public sector. It is not an argument for shelving projects such as telephone expansion or railway electrification if they clearly could pay off under the right management.

It is investment by central and local government and other public corporations that has been worst affected by public expenditure cuts. The actual fall is expected to be more, because local authorities and nationalized industries have both been subjected to such Treasury financial pressures that they have retrieved overspending on pay and other current items by underspending on capital projects.

The prospects for 1982-83 do not look much better unless the Chancellor takes steps to improve them in the Budget. The construction industry has been ill rewarded for a fall in its tender prices in 1981 by a cut in the cash allocated to water services, motorways and other projects, so that the volume of work is only maintained, rather than increased. This casts discredit on the whole new system of cash limits as opposed to volume controls, since it penalizes success in the battle against inflation.

The Government's failure to recognize the claims of the public sector other than the nationalized industries is demonstrated by the fact that its capital expenditure was cut by 14% per cent in real terms in the 1981-82 plans compared with the previous year, while that of the nationalized industries was increased by the same per-



The economist who got it right: Keynes by Low

centage. The total for both kinds of public investment was thus set to fall by 1 per cent. The actual fall is expected to be more, because local authorities and nationalized industries have both been subjected to such Treasury financial pressures that they have retrieved overspending on pay and other current items by underspending on capital projects.

As a result of these cuts, public expenditure on construction work has fallen by 35 per cent in volume between 1975-76 and the 1981-82 plans. Unemployment in the industry has risen to 25 per cent — 370,000 people — and a number of companies have been in difficulty. Public policy has had a disproportionately damaging effect on the construction industry. Although the Government has taken various measures designed to help, a steady prospect of an increasing book of orders would be worth more than all the others.

The EIU study for the Federation of Civil Engineering Construction proposed a £2,000m increase in public investment in each of the next three financial years. As well as helping to create jobs in the construction industry, this would have "multiplier" effects on the rest of the economy. Unlike other possible job-creating measures, such as tax cuts or employment subsidies, it would also yield a permanent increase in Britain's capital base, leading to a more efficient economy

will become dangerously low if the Chancellor does not better than his undertaking to maintain activity on public housing in 1982-83 at approximately the same level as in 1981-82.

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The council house building programme has been the worst hit of all. Only about 35,000 public sector dwellings were completed in 1981, and only about 38,000 were started — a half and a quarter respectively of the 1975 figures. While a property-owning democracy is a worthy aim, the stock of council houses still required

### Capital expenditure on goods and services (Constant 1980 survey prices £m.)

	1975-76 (actual)	1981-82 (planned)	Change
Government	2188	1710	- 22%
Local Authorities	6677	2093	- 69%
Nationalized Industries	5403	5200	- 4%
Other Public Corporations	1568	891	- 43%
Total	15834	9884	- 38%

### The worst-hit sectors

	1975-76	1981-82	Change
Housing*	4560	1772	- 61%
Roads*	2178	1487	- 32%
Water	783	500	- 38%

\*Mainly water authorities and new town and housing corporations

^Gross capital expenditure by local authorities and new towns

^Motorways, roads, and local public transport, capital and maintenance

Today a year ago was an extraordinary day. One remembers it almost, although not quite, as Auden said of the day that Yeats died, "as one thinks of a day when one did something slightly unusual".

Ar, year ago today, in the "unusual" circumstances in which the American hostages in Tehran released, President Carter, defeated and humiliated, gave way to President Reagan, triumphant and confident.

But that is not all that is peculiar about today's anniversary. An unusual dimension is added by the fact that America is already celebrating the hundredth birthday of Franklin D. Roosevelt even ten days before it occurs. The museums are now putting the finishing touches to their exhibitions of his life. The journals are already writing about him, and everyone is asking: "Why can't we have a President like that?"

The contrast is made all the more poignant because Ronald Reagan tries to compare himself with Franklin Roosevelt. Following his own lead, his supporters call him "The Republican FDR". But it is President Reagan himself, in television broadcasts on Christmas night, which has been intelligently republished by *The New Republic*, who shows how hollow the comparison is. Even his sympathetic interviewer was dumbfounded.

It is not so much that President Reagan now wholly misrepresents the policies of President Roosevelt; then, but that Roosevelt would never,

have thought of justifying himself by comparing himself with anyone else. Roosevelt came to his time, a man whom his time needed, and acted in his time. Was he comparable to Washington? As great as Lincoln? On a par with Wilson? He did not have the time to ask — or answer.

No-one likes to criticise President Reagan a year after he took office. For one thing, it is not popular to do so, and so not easy. Everyone would like him to do well, everyone wants a strong and confident America; and anyhow he is just likeable. But with all that said, this man who promised to restore the spirit as well as the prosperity and strength of America, has left it as ill at ease as ever.

It is not only what he does, but how he does it; as if he does not care at all. It is not only the liberals who are angry at the way at which he seems to tread on the poor. It is the conservatives who feel embarrassed by the apparent lack of compassion or even awareness. No-one really minds the rich being richer; but not at the cost of asking the poor to pay.

Why is it that Roosevelt, an aristocrat, was so generous in his vision? Why is it that Reagan, self-made, is so ungenerous in his awareness? Why did Roosevelt,

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ratory movement who helped

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Mullin, the Tribune journalis-

t and editor of two books on Tony

Benn's philosophy.

Mullin, who is otherwise a leading light in the left-wing

**THE TIMES DIARY**

Vladimir Ilyich Lenin, Trevor Roper, Ernest Hemingway and Mae West all have something in common. What is it? The answer apparently, according to Mike Fox, creative director of Cogent Elliott, the advertising agency which has masterminded the new Rolls-Royce advertising campaign, is that they have all at one time or another been Rolls-Royce owners.

For those readers of names are to appear alongside those of scores of other famous folk who have shared the same distinction in an imminent series of double page advertisements in the press.

Campaign for Labour Democracy and a self-confessed contributor to the turmoil in the party, and who was interviewed for the book by the authors, accused David of joining the CLPD and shortly afterwards leaving it for the narrow purpose of aiding his research. David muttered that he had believed in the principles of the CLPD and that his membership had merely lasted, but he floundered even more when Mullin, 33, went on to suggest that he had performed the legwork for the book in order to furnish with "facts" his uncle's yesterday.

No sooner had the earnest journalist David and his uncle Michael, professor of government and social administration at Brunel University, paid tribute to everyone in the Labour movement who helped their researches, than they found themselves on the receiving end of some heavy flak from Chris Mullin, the Tribune journalist and editor of two books on Tony Benn's philosophy.

Mullin, who is otherwise a leading light in the left-wing

and friends, was first published in Polish in Gdańsk in 1981 when its print run of 135,000 copies sold out.

Subsequently a Polish commercial organization in Finland, acting on behalf of the original copyright holders, managed to sell the rights to foreign language editions in another eight countries, including Britain. The British edition will be published in paperback and hardback by Penguin and Allen Lane this March with an introduction written by Neal Ascherson, the journalist who specializes in East European affairs.

On top of all that, Peter

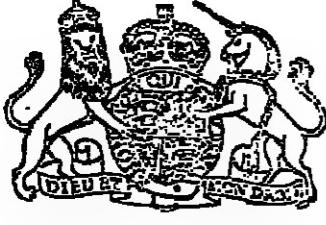
Kellner political editor of the New Statesman weighed in with an attack about the absence of the New Left Tendency from the book. Mullin's analysis it all added spice to the wine and peanuts.

Regrettably, my own name, quite correctly, does not appear.

and brother of the authors were further hit by two divisive incidents.

Ken Livingston (who had spent much of the time warning everyone who cared to listen as well as those who did not that transport would assume a





## COURT AND SOCIAL

### COURT CIRCULAR

SANDRINGHAM, NORFOLK January 19: The Prince of Wales today visited South Wales. The Hon Edward Adeane was in attendance.

THATCHED HOUSE LODGE January 19: Princess Alexandra, Patron, this afternoon visited the Headquarters of the Cystic Fibrosis Research Trust at 5 Blith Road, London Borough of Bromley.

Miss Mona Mitchell was in attendance.

The Duke of Kent, President of the Royal National Life-boat Institution, accompanied by The Duchess of Kent, will attend a

family service of remembrance and thanksgiving for the Penlee lifeboat at the Paul Church, Mousehole, Cornwall, on Friday.

A memorial service for Lady Hartwell will be held at St Margaret's, Westminster, on Tuesday, February 23, at noon.

The Dowager Lady Grinorthore regrets that she was unable to attend the memorial service for Major Sir Reginald Macdonald Buchanan in the Guards Chapel on January 12.

Memorial Mass for Marie B. Gublenkian will be celebrated at St Mary's Church, Cadogan Street, SW3, at 11 am on Monday, February 6.

Mrs David Shovel gave birth to a daughter (Louisa Phyllis Rose) on Sunday, January 17.

Mr C. D. Towns and Miss H. J. Cook

The engagement is announced between Christopher, son of Mr and Mrs Philip Towns of Wellington, and Julia Hazel, younger daughter of Mr and Mrs Douglas Bracey Cook, of Sonderstead, Surrey.

Mr A. P. Voller and Miss J. Shaw

The engagement is announced between Anthony, younger son of Mr and Mrs H. Voller, and Diana, eldest daughter of Mr and Mrs John Shaw, of Silverstone, Patches Park, Leatherhead.

Mr R. A. H. Webb and Miss J. M. Cotterill

The engagement is announced between Adam, son of Mr R. Webb and the late Mrs H. Webb, of Dorking, Surrey, and Joanne Cotterill, daughter of Mr and Mrs K. W. Cotterill, of Camberley, Surrey.

Mr P. J. Power and Dr N. Vander-Vaugh

The engagement is announced between Patrick, eldest son of Mr and Mrs P. C. Power, of Luton, Bedfordshire, and Sarah Louise, younger daughter of Mr and Mrs Vivian Jenkins, of Witney Manor, Witney, Oxfordshire.

Major E. A. Windsor Clive and Miss G. M. S. Fitzgerald

The engagement is announced between Edward Windsor Clive, Coldstream Guards, son of Captain and Mrs F. A. Windsor Clive of Bury Court Remarquey, Gloucester, and Grania, daughter of Mr M. B. F. S. Fitzgerald, of Hill Place, Haywards Heath, Sussex, and the late Mrs M. Fitzgerald.

**BIRTHDAYS TODAY**

Lord Aylestone, former chairman of the Independent Broadcasting Authority, who is 77.

Mr George Burns, 86; Mr Derek Dougan, 44; the Very Rev D. Edwards, 52; the Hon Sir Henry Fisher, 64; Sir James Hanson, 64; Major Dick Hern, 61; Lt-Roy Royalist Kisch, 63; Commandant Vonka McBride, 61; Mr H. P. J. Marshall, 76; Sir Roy Welensky, 75.

**LATEST APPOINTMENTS**

Latest appointments include:

Mr W. A. Beaumont, an Assistant Secretary in the Welsh Office, to be Speaker's Secretary, from February 1, in succession to Sir Noel Short.

Professor Sir Desmond Pong, Professor of Psychiatry, London University, to be chief scientist to the Department of Health and Social Security from March.

Mr H. B. Christie, to be vice-president of the Liverpool School of Tropical Medicine.

The Rev J. M. Aranson, vice-principal, of Westcott House, Cambridge, to be principal of the Theological College, Queen's Hall, Edinburgh.

Lord Reitland, Sir Robert Armstrong, Sir Brian Cubbon, Sir James M. Bell, Mr J. Bowren (secretary-general).

HM Inspectorate of Constabulary

Mr John Page, MP, chairman of the British Group of the Inter-Parliamentary Union, was host at a luncheon at the Royal Yacht Squadron, Ship Hispaniola, yesterday in honour of a parliamentary delegation from Norway led by Mr Oddbjorn Langlo, chairman of the Norwegian Group of the IPU.

Law Society

Mr Denis Marshall, President of the Law Society, was host at a luncheon at 60 Carey Street, WC2, yesterday. The guests were: Sir Arthur Collins, Sir Neville Leigh, Sir Michael Sir Francis Sanderson, Sir Ian Trewhowan, Mr Peter Williams, Mr J. Barrett and Mr J. Bowren (secretary-general).

Scientific Instrument Makers' Company

The Scientific Instrument Makers' Company held a livery dinner at the annual reunion luncheon held at the Restaurant Ship Hispaniola, yesterday in honour of a parliamentary delegation from Norway led by Mr Oddbjorn Langlo, chairman of the Norwegian Group of the IPU.

Lord Mayorress

The Lord Mayor and Lady Mayoress entertained the Court of Aldermen, the Sheriffs' and the High Officers of the Corporation of London, and their ladies at dinner at Mansion House last night.

Mr Ernest Arnould, MR, Mr Arthur Entwistle (President of the society), Dr George Gallop, Lord Campbell of Cawdor, Dr Alan Gaskins, Dr D. G. Dohring, Miss Anne Ellis, Mr Walter Gordon, Mr S. Harvey, Mr James Johnson, Mr William Heywood, Mr James Johnson, Mr Kenneth Lewis, Mr W. R. Morris, Mr R. Smith, Mr R. Spilliford, Dr Bernard Stilliford and Mr James Tunnicliffe, MP.

Inter-Parliamentary Union

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Red, gold and silver dominate the arms. The Prince's shield is chiefly the devices of England, Scotland and Ireland, with four Welsh dragons surmounted by a crown in the centre. The Princess's shield consists of two

knots, or flets, the scutum arms of the Spencer family, with a lion rampant on the scutum shells to signify from which branch of the family she is descended.

Six months' work by the College of Arms has gone into preparing the arms, and several drafts were prepared before a final version was approved by the Prince and Princess. Mr Colin Cole, Carter King of Arms, and yesterday said it was difficult to put the two shields together to conform with the rules of heraldry, while making the whole device artistically satisfying.

Both the Prince and the Princess have their own individual arms, she having been granted her personal device by royal warrant, immediately after her wedding last July. Household recipients at Highgrove of the new stamp, and its appearance on a flag flying above the couple's Gloucestershire home is certain.

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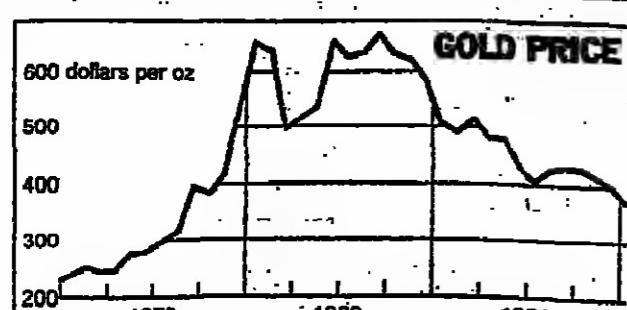
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Gold was steadier yesterday after its recent shake-out, recovering \$3 to \$375. The bullion price has started 1982 weakly, with investors taking the view that the metal is unlikely to shine while real interest rates continue at high levels.

### Nissan plant decision soon

Nissan of Japan is to make a final decision next month on its proposal to build a £300m car manufacturing plant in the United Kingdom. Mr Takashi Ishihara, the company's president, said in Tokyo yesterday that a feasibility study had put the project in a favourable light and "I see no special obstacles to our advance". He added that another company delegation is to visit Britain next month for a final round of negotiations.

### The race for Governor

Mr David Scholey, deputy chairman of Warburgs, appears to be slipping in the race to be next Governor of the Bank of England. Although he is well-favoured by the Prime Minister, the latest Government thinking is that it is too early for Mr Scholey, aged 46, to make the move. The Government, however, still seems determined to appoint less establishment figure than Mr Gordon Richardson, the present incumbent.

### De Lorean aid to be reviewed

The Government is reconsidering the extent of its financial support for the De Lorean car company in the light of a slump in sales in the United States. It is understood that the company will be given a further £10m in aid.

Mr Adam Butler, Minister of State for Northern Ireland, told the Commons yesterday that new export credit guarantees would be granted to the company for £10m up to May 31, and a further £5m up to August 31.

This falls well short of De Lorean's demand for £26m immediately, and a further £10m in March.

### Belfast jobs go

Short Brothers, the State-owned Belfast aerospace company, is to make 650 workers redundant, about one tenth of their labour force, because of the continuing world airline recession, says Adrienne Gleeson.

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### MARKET SUMMARY

#### Strong day for shares

The FT Index of top 30 shares had its best day since 1979 this year rising 11.2 to 545.9 as the chances of a miners strike receded.

Blue chips did well. Among those to benefit were Glaxo up 12p to a new high of 486p, Blue Circle up to 522p, Grand Metropolitan up to 385p, Unilever 10p to 636p, Hawker Siddeley 10p to 324p and Reed International 12p to 266p.

Buyers were also cheasing Imperial Group, up 21p to 75p, in the hope that it will be able to maintain last year's dividend of 8.4p gross when the figures come out in a few weeks.

With few sellers around, Tarmac rose 16p to 418p after the group announced the go-ahead for its big Birmingham office development.

Government securities and the pound both continued to surge ahead yesterday after the easing of pressure on domestic interest rates earlier this week.

Buyers pushed prices up by up to 21p by the close and this enabled the Government Broker to exhaust the remaining £250m of the short tax Exchequer 14 per cent 1986, after reducing the price £24 to £93.

He was also able to sell amounts in the three 'mini-taps', Treasury 13 per cent 1990, 12 per cent 1985 and 13% per cent 2004-25, a few profit-taking appeared on the account.

Equity turnover on January 18, was £107.88m (£14,015 billion).

Michael Clark

### LONDON EXCHANGE

On the London Metal Exchange, tin developed an easier tone as hedging sales found buyers unresponsive. Three months standard grade tin traded down to £7895 a tonne by the close, down £70 on the day. The copper market was steady in sympathy with gold. Three months higher grade copper ended the day up 6p up to £2825.50 a tonne. Other metals were basically steady.

**TIN**  
E per tonne      London close  
8600  
8400  
8200  
8000  
7800  
NOV DEC JAN 1982

### LONDON CLOSE

Sterling  
\$1.8950, up 120 points  
Index 91.5, up 0.7  
DM 4.35, up 200 points  
Fr.F 11.07, up 17 points  
Yen 4251, up 100 points  
Dollar  
Index 108.7, down 0.4  
DM 2.2905, down 82 points  
Gold  
\$3751, up \$3

### MONEY MARKETS

Rates eased across the board as the Bank of England lowered its intervention level for the second consecutive day, buying Band 1 bills at 14% per cent against 14% per cent on Monday.

**Domestic rates:**  
Base rates      14%  
3-month interbank      15½-16%

**Euro-currency rates:**  
3-month dollar      14½-14¾  
3-month DM      10½-10¾  
3-month Fr.F      16½-16¾

### TODAY

Basic Wage Rate Index (December)  
Average Earnings (November)  
Construction Orders (November)  
Department of Energy announce date for public inquiry into building of PWR nuclear reactor at Sizewell, Suffolk  
MEPC — AGM  
CBI Council monthly meeting  
Trust House Forte — finals  
Anglo TV — finals  
Tate & Lyle — finals

## Hopes for Budget cuts in borrowing burden

By Peter Wilson Smith

Important Budget charges allowing business to pay interest on loans net of corporation tax could be introduced if, as seems likely, Sir Geoffrey Howe, the Chancellor, needs proposals from the Grylls Committee.

The proposals are receiving considerable support within the Government, not least from Mrs Thatcher who has agreed to meet the Grylls study group soon.

Such a move would allow long-term loans to be paid net of corporation tax and would effectively halve the immediate interest cost to industry and greatly boost cash flow. At present, a company paying £10m of annual interest can offset this against profits before paying corporation tax but many companies are not believed to be supporters.

Mr Michael Grylls, chair-

they have no taxable profits. Under the Grylls proposal the £10m interest burden would be cut to £5m and there would be no relief for corporation tax.

They will discuss proposals to boost industrial investment by encouraging longer-term lending by the banks. The meeting is another important victory for the Grylls group which is lobbying hard to have its proposals included in the forthcoming budget.

The study group met Sir Geoffrey in November and has since had detailed talks with Treasury officials and there have been several meetings with Mr Patrick Jenkin, Secretary of State for Industry and Mr Kenneth Baker, Industry Minister, who are both believed to be supporters.

Mr Michael Grylls, chair-

man of the Conservative backbench industry committee, who was instrumental in getting the Government-backed loan guarantee scheme accepted in the last Budget, said there appeared to be a good deal of political support for the proposals.

The group was set up by Mr Grylls last July.

Its main proposals, designed to encourage investment by boosting long-term lending in industry by the banks, included allowing interest on loans over five years to be paid net of corporation tax and capital repayment holidays of up to three years. It is also recommended raising the present £75,000 loan guarantee scheme and restrictions on the growth of bank lending to the non-business sector.

### SDP man pleads for wage curbs

By Frances Williams

New policies to restrain wage rises and curb trade union powers are essential if unemployment is to be brought down without the risk of explosive inflation, Professor James Meade, the Nobel prize-winning economist, argues in a book published tomorrow.

Professor Meade urges the use of tax and monetary policies to expand money demand in the economy at a steady rate high enough to permit output growth combined with a decentralised incomes policy to ensure this is translated into more jobs rather than more inflation.

He advocates the setting up of an independent arbitration commission which would judge pay awards by looking at their implications for employment.

Professor Meade's views have influenced the emerging economic policies of the Social Democratic Party, of which he is a member, and his basic notion of making steady expansion of demand in some sense conditional on pay restraint is likely to feature in SDP policy.

Curbing inflation, page 15

### INTEREST RATES MAY SLIP

The Bank of England lowered its intervention rate in money markets for the second consecutive day yesterday, raising speculation that it may be prepared to see a small drop in the general level of interest rates.

Many money market dealers remain cautious, however. They feel that the Bank is merely doing all it can to tempt companies to borrow on bill finance rather than by bank overdrafts. The authorities are keen to see a heavy flow of new bill issues to help them in their day-to-day management of the money markets.

Some observers take a more optimistic view. They think the Bank is happier now about the underlying trend in the money supply and is fearful that the economic recovery could be strangled unless interest rates are edged downwards.

Their views could be tested today if the discount houses lower their rates again in their dealings with the Bank.

Business Editor, page 15



## Oil prices plunging despite Opec deal

By Edward Townsend  
Industrial Correspondent

Spot market oil prices are continuing to decline, despite the severe winter particularly in the United States and Europe, and the big refining companies are now making losses as high as \$3 a barrel.

According to the authoritative Petroleum Intelligence Weekly, sufficient time has elapsed for spot markets to begin reflecting the \$34 Opec price structure set in Geneva last October, but instead of rising, prices are slumping.

Much of the cheaper \$32-a-barrel Saudi Arabian light crude has now worked through the refining system but the surplus is still large enough to prevent a recovery.

Heavy oil, tall and poor burning conditions have depressed demand for petrol and price wars have continued at garages throughout Britain, the Benelux countries, West Germany and Scandinavia.

Commenting on the first two weeks of 1982, the journal says: "Oil companies were seen battling for market share in a desperate effort to raise refinery runs to more cost efficient levels."

Shell UK has blamed the depressed state of the market for its decision to close seven distribution terminals which union officials claim will result in 150 job losses by the end of 1983.

Provisional figures for oil products demand in the United Kingdom last year show a drop to 66 million from 74 million tonnes for 1980 and 87 million tonnes for 1979. Last year's demand was the lowest since 1965.

The journal says that since pressure is now mounting on Opec's \$34 marker price, Saudi Arabia may be forced to limit its oil exports to fulfil its pledge to defend the price structure.

Sheikh Ahmed Zaki Yamani, the Saudi oil minister, said in an interview with the Middle East Economic Survey this week that the kingdom was prepared to allow oil output to fall below the current 8.5 million barrels a day although it did not plan a formal cut in production.

He has stressed that a reduction to 6.2 million barrels a day would not create revenue problems, but Petroleum Intelligence Weekly says that a more likely would be an initial reduction to 7.5 million barrels a day.

Sheikh Yamani said his kingdom would allow market forces to determine the level of output necessary to defend the Opec marker price.

Saudi oil experts now believe that a balance between oil supply and demand will not occur until the second half of this year, because of the economic recession in the United States.

Sheikh Yamani predicted that the current Opec price freeze would be extended when it expired at the end of the year or tariffs would be raised to take account of inflation.

The film company has also diversified its operations in recent years, moving into the fast-growing home entertainment business with video cassette and pay television subsidiaries.

In addition, Columbia has signed a new agreement with Time Incorporated, owners of Home Box Office, under which its films will be used exclusively until April 1984.

It was both the diversity of its business and the growth potential of Columbia in cable television, for example, which attracted Coca-Cola to Coke's new management.

Columbia plans to release a \$40m production later this year of the musical *Annie*, a hit both on Broadway and in London.

Columbia has designated more than \$15m for promotion of the film which is expected to be both a financial and a box office success.

The next real increase in oil prices, he said, would occur when demand strengthened, when economic recovery began and when coal no longer competed with fuel oil. "This could be around the end of this decade or in the nineties."

The journal adds that European spot market prices now offer a trace of good news to beleaguered refiners, and the continent now ranks as the most attractive market.

Arabian light is now worth about \$32.70 a barrel for a Rotterdam refiner compared with \$32.25-\$32.50 east of Suez.

### Hickson & Welch (Holdings) PLC

CHEMICAL MANUFACTURERS AND TIMBER PRESERVERS

Extracts from the Report and Accounts for 1981

Year ended 30 September	1981	1980
Turnover	£9,873	£9,256
Export sales of the U.K. companies	29,300	28,800
Group profit before tax	6,275	6,475
Earnings for ordinary shareholders	3,088	3,242
Total ordinary dividend	1,450	1,450
Earnings — pence per share	16	17
Investment in new capital expenditure	3,445	4,236

\* Profits from chemical operations were lower with conditions in the six months to 31 March, 1981 particularly difficult.

\* Despite cost saving measures, the chemical side continued to be affected by increased costs of energy and raw materials, and the effect of the strong pound on exports in the first half of the year.

\* Profits from timber preservation activities improved, particularly from the overseas subsidiaries. Activity in fencing materials, fire retardants and other specialised products has increased.

\* Future prospects should provide opportunities for an expansion of business in timber preservation and building materials, but in present conditions no more than a modest improvement can be expected in the chemical operations.

\* Recommended final dividend 5p per share for 1981/82 making a total of 7.5p for the year — the same as last year.

## BUSINESS NEWS / COMPANIES AND MARKET REPORTS

## FOODS, SALT AND HEATING

# Shares that prosper when it snows

No wonder Wall Street pays out such hefty sums to its meteorological gurus — the British bout of snow has put some stocks up by as much as 10 per cent since the beginning of December, while the main FT index has stood still.

With half the winter still to go, the market expects to see more rises. There is a distinct lack of other stories, with major investment programmes waiting on United States interest rate news and the miners' decision on a strike. Only a few of the beneficiaries have moved in this state of caution, so much of the running is to come.

Our Meteorological Office — where, of course, the service is available at the price of a mere phone call — does not understand the money motive. It will not look further forward than a few days, and frost is the worst it will forecast. It has not, however, achieved the best of track records, so little is lost.

Fruit shares have been at the forefront of the gains. Anyone with stocks of vegetables, in frozen or canned form, should do good business. Vegetables in the ground in the United Kingdom and on the continent have been decimated by the weather. The Florida frosts are cutting back supplies of fruit from that area of the globe. So vegetables and fruit will be scarce and expensive.

Beijam was the first food stock to rise — from 112p to 123p from the beginning of December. But there are less obvious gainers from a run on frozen food.

Imperial Group, out of favour because of declining tobacco sales and the past losses on its poultry side, owns Rost. It also has a large chunk of the canned food market, with brand names such as Smedley. Forecasts

for the year to October 1981 see a fall from £124m to around £84m. Gloom could be offset if first-quarter food sales are indicated as better. The share price is up 3p from early December on recovery hopes.

Tiny companies, like Bejam, tell a simpler tale. With freezer sales the only other substantial areas of activity, analysts forecast an extra £250,000 or so or even more, taking the pre-tax to £1m. They expect Bejam's shares to respond. The dividend will probably maintain its usual steady improvement as special factors such as snow should not interfere with the group's long-term financial strategy. There are even those who complain that it is a nuisance. If there is no snow next winter, the 1982 first half is going to be difficult to beat.

Another beneficiary must be Cordon Bleu, the freezer centre group that is now part of Argyl Foods. Argyl's share price fell back when it looked as though it was going to pick up Linford — not the jazziest of acquisitions. It has not, yet, the share price is still down 3p from the early December level. So there is a double reason for taking another look at the group.

Complicated groups, such as the giant Unilever, are harder to unravel. As a manufacturer of both frozen and canned food, it will undoubtedly see higher sales. The group is already well tipped because of its improving profit margins, and its very lowly p/e ratio.

At the very least, higher prices of frozen vegetables that fall into the commodity bracket — peas and beans — will help it to keep its market share. As Bird's Eye, the Unilever brand heads the market in research and development, spending vast

sums, so it is easy for others to undercut.

Salt is another commodity in great demand. ICI is the best-known producer. But Rank Hovis McDougall has a stake in British Salt, only 25 per cent it is true, yet enough when added to all the other areas showing increased sales to become significant. The group says that some areas are strongly better. One is animal feeds as farmers are having to rely heavily on brought-in food for their livestock. The group produces a vast list of carbohydrates, which everyone has rushed off to buy to keep the herd at bay. All this could add some fizz to a company where analysts are otherwise expecting a dull price performance.

Dalgety, Pauls & Whites and J. Bibby are also producers of animal feedstuffs. Dalgety is being recommended by some for income, as the yield is over 11 per cent, and Pauls & Whites has its followers because of its new management team.

The company has already forecast an improvement in profits — and that was back in September.

That leaves heating. Manufacturers of convector heaters have been counselling a rush to the shops before they sell out completely. Again, the major producers are large and complicated groups. Easier to identify is the heating oil section of Coalite Group — the group reduced the price of Coalite, its smokeless fuel produce, and is doing better on that side. The p/e is not too demanding at around 9, and this winter should bring a good cash flow.

AAH is also in the fuel distribution business.

Sally White



Frozen assets: anyone with food stocks should do well.

## MFI FURNITURE

## Comfortably ahead of forecasts

MFI Furniture Group, earning over half of profits from its promotional periods, is extending its present sales to nine weeks in an attempt to capture trade lost because of recent exceptional

weather. MFI ably exceeded market cuts with a 43 per cent pretax profits to £1m in the six months to November.

his compares with estimates of about £5.5m, and puts the group on track for full-year profits of between £13m and £14m despite the poor start to the second-half, with turnover from both December and January depressed. MFI estimates some £5m to £6m of sales have gone because of the weather in the first three weeks of the sale, which is now being extended by another three weeks.

Sales were markedly down at £84.8m against £90m in the same period last time, mainly because of the squeeze still affecting consumer spending, and more marginally, as a consequence of the group's reduced selling space due to closures of a few unprofitable stores.

## Base Lending Rates

	ABN Bank	Barclays	BCCI	Consolidated Crds.	C. Hoare & Co	Lloyds Bank	Midland Bank	Nat Westminster	TSB	Williams & Glynn's
7 day deposit	14 1/2%	14 1/2%	14 1/2%	14 1/2%	14 1/2%	14 1/2%	14 1/2%	14 1/2%	14 1/2%	14 1/2%
one month	15 1/2%	15 1/2%	15 1/2%	15 1/2%	15 1/2%	15 1/2%	15 1/2%	15 1/2%	15 1/2%	15 1/2%
three months	15 1/2%	15 1/2%	15 1/2%	15 1/2%	15 1/2%	15 1/2%	15 1/2%	15 1/2%	15 1/2%	15 1/2%
six months	15 1/2%	15 1/2%	15 1/2%	15 1/2%	15 1/2%	15 1/2%	15 1/2%	15 1/2%	15 1/2%	15 1/2%
one year	15 1/2%	15 1/2%	15 1/2%	15 1/2%	15 1/2%	15 1/2%	15 1/2%	15 1/2%	15 1/2%	15 1/2%

\* £15,000 and under 12%, up to £50,000 13%, over £50,000 14%.

pany's business, there was a 63 per cent increase in profits contribution to £1.63m.

But in publishing, Mr Audley said the drop in profitability from £454,000 to £410,000 was the result of pressures on circulation and advertising revenues.

The second half of the current financial year is already well advanced and seasonal factors which bring in more revenue to the company in the first quarter are likely to produce a generally satisfactory outcome to the year, he said.

A half-yearly dividend of 3.28p gross has been declared on capital increased by last June's £2m rights issue. A half-year dividend of 2.58p gross was paid last year. But despite this increase, the ordinary share price fell 5p from 27p to 27p yesterday.

Mr Audley said that parts of the group, such as publishing,

were susceptible to recession and this was bound to be reflected in the results.

The recession was not at an end, but the publishing activities would see substantial growth when the upturn from recession came this autumn, he said. "People at AGB are still very bullish," he added.

## ACCOUNTING

Proposed accounting rules which could have made companies show losses running into millions of pounds when they borrow in overseas currencies have been dropped as a result of protests from some major British companies including Brooke Bond Liebig and ICL. The proposals, which formed part of the Accounting Standards Committee's exposure draft 27 on account

ing for foreign currency translation, held that exchange losses on loans taken out in foreign currencies unmatched by assets in the same currency had to be expressed in the profit and loss account.

But protests that this would restrict the flexibility of a company to finance overseas projects has led to a decision, to be included in an accounting standard on foreign currency due at the end of March, that borrowing in one currency may be offset against assets in another currency and that any losses that result on translation into sterling will be put into reserves.

The Accounting Standards Committee, which oversees accounting regulations, said yesterday that 47 out of 107 commentators on the ex-

posure draft thought the terms should be extended. One of the protestors, Brooke Bond Liebig, claimed that the rules would have caused financing decisions to be made for accounting reasons.

But the standard is still expected to say that losses from borrowings in foreign currency made only for speculative purposes will still have to be written off in the profit and loss account.

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EASLEY-TYAS, the property group brought to market last February by Mr Ronald Shuck, former chairman of Slater-Walkers, associate company Cornwall Properties, yesterday announced pre-tax profits of £2.27m for the half year to September.

— increased their working and after-tax profits in the December quarter, while the fourth — Vycle Main Reit — returned a lower figure mainly because of a lower recovery grade and higher working costs. The group's total profit after tax and State's share of profit rose by £1.09m to £33.06 (about £18.26m).

The upturn in the demand for antimony is reflected in Consolidated Mining's annual results for 1981 which show a 210 per cent improvement in after-tax profits from R1.48m to R1.48m.

As forecast, a first-half profit of 1.42p gross is being paid. The board explains that the climate, plus high interest rates, have hit house building and other residential operations.

Sales increase from 12,717 tons to 16,212 tons of cobbed ore and concentrates worth £15.56m against R12.17m. Gold sales also increased by R7.48m against R6.09m, while sundry mining income was R7,000 up at R105,000. With working costs at R17.07m against R16.75m, there was a working profit of R6.11m against R6.1m.

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## BIDS AND DEALS

Fisons reports that, after an approach from Mascan Corporation (formerly S. B. McLaughlin Associates) from whom it bought its original 50 per cent interest in Fisons Western Corporation in December for CS12.5m, it has now acquired the remaining 50 per cent for CS8.5m (£about 23.77m). This is more than covered by the value of the net tangible assets.

Humber Kitchens, the supplier with some 40 per cent of MFI's output in flatpack kitchens and bedroom furniture, has managed to keep prices down, he said. MFI accounts for some 90 per cent of Humber's own output.

Mr Lister added that one of the group's former West German suppliers has now switched to producing from a factory in England.

Mr Arthur Southon, chairman, says the group has held the first-half dividend to 1.57p gross because of caution over the second-half but will review the situation with the final dividend. The group's shares fell, hovering 3p to 38p.

## CAPITAL MARKETS

Dunfermline District Council has raised £500,000 and Kirklees Metropolitan Borough has

£100,000, through an issue of 15% per cent bonds due on January 26 1983, at par. In all cases the bonds have been placed by Butler Till Limited.

Caterpillar Tractor reports the offering by its subsidiary, Caterpillar Financial Services N.V., of about \$300m (about £215m) nil coupon guaranteed notes, due August 11, 1992. The notes will be unconditionally guaranteed by Caterpillar Tractor.

Mr Lister added that parts of the group, such as publishing,

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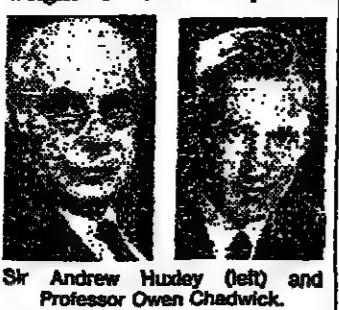
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## PEOPLE

**A far cry from the Ivory Tower**

In an unprecedented intervention in political affairs, Sir Andrew Huxley, physiologist and president of the Royal Society and a Nobel-prizewinner, and Professor Owen Chadwick, historian and president of the British Academy, have thrown the weight of their respective



Sir Andrew Huxley (left) and Professor Owen Chadwick.

organizations in support of the many scientists, engineers and scholars locked up or muzzled by the Polish generals. They have sent their message of full support to the Polish Academy of Sciences for a rapid restoration of the exchange of senior researchers that has operated freely for 20 years between the two countries.

Researchers from Poland can work up to four months in a university, research institute or industrial centre of their choice with the Royal Society's help. Before the military takeover, visitors last year included a botanist, chemist, ecologist, metallurgist, organic chemist, palaeontologist and electronics specialist.

Sir Andrew has also circulated his concern about the interruption to collaboration in research to the two most important umbrella organizations for world science — the International Council of Scientific Unions, which has 64 national members including the Soviet Academy of Sciences and the American National Academy of Sciences, and the International Academic Union.

**And good morning to you on this, the first day of the new-style, high-rise "People" column. As its name implies, the new edifice is about "people", although I must say that I never thought of anybody who crossed the threshold of the old, low-rise Business Diary as anything less than human. Meanwhile, so long as I am manager of this new column I will stand no messing about from that lot on the ground floor in New Appointments. They can rattle ice cubes and pop champagne corks all they like as they celebrate their new jobs, but I would ask to them to respect the other guests in the column and pipe down a bit after midnight.**

**The Jones boy**

John Elliott: unlike Lord Grade, he isn't Robert Holmes a' Court

The latest pushy Australian entrepreneur to hit town is John Elliott, aged 39, who in the past nine years has transformed the old-established sleepy food manufacturer Henry Jones into one of Australia's fastest growing companies.

While compatriot Robert Holmes a' Court, spent yesterday explaining why he was taking over Lord Grade's troubled ACC empire, Elliott was trying to convince the institutions of the potential he sees from last year's merger with the pastoral combine Elder Smith which catapulted Elliott into control of the sixteenth largest group Down Under, controlling assets of around A\$1,000m (£584m).

Elliott, who sports ex-test cricketer Bob Cowper on his board, is at pains to emphasize that he is not in the same mould as Holmes a' Court — whom he beat off in last year's battle for Elder Smith — or Alan Bond or fast rising newcomer Ron Brierley. They, Elliott says, are quintessentially stock market operators more like our own Jim Slater or John Bentley, while he sees himself as a sort of Australian Weinstein or James Hanson — someone who builds up companies through sheer management skills.

**NEW APPOINTMENTS**

On the retirement of Mr John Bayfield as chairman, Mr Tom Holborn, the managing director becomes chairman and managing director of Tobler Suchard.

Mr John E. Lee has been appointed a director of Robin Marler & Associates.

Mr K. G. Wilkinson, engineering director of British Airways, has been appointed a part-time member of the British Rail Engineering Board.

Mr E. C. Hall has been appointed joint managing director of Ultramar Golden Eagle, United Kingdom marketing subsidiary of the Ultramar Group.

Mr B. G. Levy and Mr J. S. W. Martin have been appointed directors of B. Elliott.

**Ross Davies**

James Meade, 1977 Nobel Prize winner, argues for a new approach to wage-fixing

# How to achieve full employment without stoking up inflation

The economy of the United Kingdom is suffering from mass unemployment and from under-used capital equipment. At the same time there are a thousand and one useful things which these unused resources of men and machines might produce — goods and services for the underprivileged at home and abroad, improvements in public services and amenities, the renewal and improvement of capital equipment for future industrial production, a general rise in standards of personal consumption.

Our problems are frequently ascribed to the world recession or to the oil crisis or to some other set of external and inevitable events. There is, of course, an element of truth in this, but it is by no means the whole of the truth. There is a frightening tendency for a relapse of attitudes back to the old-fashioned view that booms and slumps are acts of God which have to be accepted, and that during a depression one must simply wait patiently for better times.

But the present world recession is in fact due primarily to the unwillingness of the main developed countries of the world to adopt Keynesian expansionary policies because of their fear of inflation.

We need to change our attitudes and find some way of maintaining Keynesian full employment without a threat of rapid and explosive inflation of money costs and prices.

To find such a cure is important not only for its own sake, that is to say, for the avoidance of the wastes of unemployment and idle resources; it is important also as a *sine qua non* for tackling many of the other basic 'real' problems which confront us such as helping in the development and enrichment of the poor undeveloped countries of the world.

Is there a set of policies and institutions which will maintain full employment without a rapid inflation of money prices and costs?

One line of approach (the Orthodox Keynesian) is to adopt measures for the expansion of money expenditures on goods and services to the extent necessary to provide a market for all the products of a fully employed economy. If this is found to cause a rapid inflation of money wages and costs, then some general centralized incomes policy has to be devised to prevent money rates of pay from rising more rapidly than in line with some moderate 'norm'.

If money wage costs and, with constant profit mark-ups, money selling prices can be stabilized in this way, then Keynesian demand-management policies which expand the level of money expenditures will expand the volume of goods and services purchased rather than the prices at which they are bought.



Union bashing is no cure, but should some of their immunities be curbed?

An alternative strategy (the fixing arrangements were moulded appropriately to design a set of monetary and budgetary policies to keep total money expenditures on goods and services on a steady, moderate upward growth path, and against this background of a steady growth in the money demand for the products of labour to design a set of wage-fixing institutions which will promote the volume of employment in each firm or other employing agency.

This involves raising the wage rate wherever there is a shortage of labour and a need to attract more labour to the firm in question, and to restrain any rise in wages wherever there are already workers available who can be taken into additional employment. With a steady increase of, say, 5 per cent per annum in the total money demand for the products of labour, the average wage rate would be steadily bid up as each typical employer sought to hire the labour needed to satisfy the increased demand for his products.

A main reason for preferring the New Keynesian to the Orthodox Keynesian approach is the fact that the latter implies a centralized incomes policy with the danger of an inefficient and unacceptable regime of bureaucratic control, whereas the former can be based more easily on a less centralized and more flexible system of wage-fixing.

There is, of course, little to be gained by designing wage-fixing arrangements to promote employment unless this is against a background of a sustained steady expansion in the demand for the products of labour. On the other hand, it would be pointless and possibly catastrophic to restrict the expansion of total money expenditures to a very moderate rate unless wage-

Nevertheless in the case of small-scale private unorganized sectors of the economy it could make a significant contribution to the cure of stagflation, quite apart from any other advantages to be gained from the extension of the general principle of participation in decision making.

Secondly, while no part of the cure is to be found by crude and extreme trade union bashing to restore competition between individual workers in the labour market (institutional wage-fixing through trade unions or some other form of organized body is an essential feature of the modern free-enterprise economy), competitive forces do have an extremely important role to play.

Some of the existing immunities of labour monopolies should be modified in so far as they are such as to protect one group of high-paid workers from competition of the other less privileged workers. We should encourage a whole range of measures that would enable low-paid workers to move into high-paid occupations, industries or localities.

Such measures are desirable in themselves in so far as they lead to a more efficient use of labour and to an equalizing tendency between the high paid and low paid, but they will also help to curb excessive inflationary upward pressures on wage rates by the previously highly protected groups.

Third, assuming that trade unions must be left with substantial monopolistic powers if they are effectively to fulfil their wage-fixing functions; but that such powers can be used to excess, some method of control must be found. The solution is not through a

The author is Emeritus Professor of Political Economy at the University of Cambridge. His latest book, *Stagflation*, Volume 1, *Wage-Fixing*, is published tomorrow by George Allen & Unwin, hardback £15, paperback £5.95.

## High-fliers look for greener pastures

**AT WORK: ACCOUNTANCY**

Adrienne Gleeson

country. Being themselves chartered accountants (it is a pre-requisite for membership), the members of the 100 Group might be presumed to know what they were talking about.

They thought — and said — that chartered accountants were going to have to face a lot more competition for top management jobs in future, not only from their cost and management-trained colleagues, but also from graduates of new disciplines, such as business studies. Such graduates, they said, would be able to offer not only the breadth of understanding which training with a large firm of accountants can provide, but some understanding of the problems and processes of management as well.

These criticisms hurt, because they hit the large accountancy firms where they were vulnerable. They rely on a high intake of bright graduates, who are trained at considerable expense and make themselves really useful from the second year of their training onwards. Some of those graduates will want to move on anyway as soon as they are qualified, and have sought the qualification only as a means to other things, or a respectable reason for deferring more permanent decisions.

Some will be tempted away, in the 10 years after qualification, by the prospect of higher rewards and more responsibility in the world outside. Some can be persuaded that the grass on the burden which such attempts at training impose?

Through all of these di-

other side of the fence is greener. And the rest — the best, if all goes according to the partners' plans — can be induced to work like hell in the expectation that they themselves will, in due course, receive a partnership.

Any suggestion that an accountancy qualification might not lead on to higher — or at any rate other — things, might scare off half these applicants and the chances are that many of them would be high quality people, just the sort of men, and women accountancy firms can profitably use, even if it is only for a year or two after qualification.

And there were other problems, too, partly because of their attempts to adjust their art to eccentric economic conditions (double figure inflation, for instance), and partly because of the spread of standards, an accountancy is becoming an ever more complex and diffuse discipline.

How were the recruits to be expected to cope? Should they know the lot? Could they be considered qualified to practise without it? But if they must know the lot, how long would it take to impart the knowledge? And if an extra year had to be tacked on to the training period, might it not frighten off the best of the candidates? Might it not, likewise, frighten off some of their potential employers — the smaller accountancy firms, who at present train a relatively small proportion of recruits, but have been becoming increasingly restless at the burdens which such attempts at training impose?

Through all of these di-

recruits to Allied Lyons' finance department is a business graduate who probably won't bother to qualify.

The report's specific proposals are modest, and welcomed as such. "They represent," says the partner in charge of training at one of the 'Big Eight' accountancy firms, "a very healthy belief that the profession should do what the profession thinks is sensible in its own interests".

The dad recruits with which the profession is plagued should be weeded out early with the help of a new "Test of Accounting Aptitude". But the basic training should, the report says be kept basic, and the training period should not be extended. In order to cope with the increasing complexity of the profession, this basic training should be supplemented with "Continuing Professional Education" and post-qualification work experience should also be regularized.

Studying accounting... but will he understand the problems and processes of management

**TRADE WITH GREECE**

**Business Editor's Column**

## Large debts, but plenty of assets

ACC's future ownership now appears to have been settled bar the shouting. Mr Holmes a' Court has enough of the voting and non-voting shares to put him firmly in the driving seat from which only a bomb or some behind-the-scenes dealing could dislodge him.

But insofar as outsiders can judge from the paucity of information currently available about ACC's financial position, Mr Holmes a' Court has got his hands on some very valuable assets. The sort of money Mr Gerald Ronson is talking about in his £42.5m conditional approach does not seem to hold a candle to ACC's underlying worth. It is hardly surprising that two ace spotters of undervalued assets are scrapping over ACC.

Few concrete financial details emerged yesterday as ACC's pre-dinner says Mr Holmes a' Court's indications that its finances were in a far more perilous position than earlier feared. Asset predators would be saving the chips in his shoes.

• That any bargain freely struck between employers and employees would be permitted.

• That any unresolved dispute about rates of pay could be taken by either party to arbitration:

• That (subject to limitations on the abruptness of rates of change of pay) the arbitral body's award should be designed primarily to promote employment in the sector of the economy under examination; and that industrial action taken in opposition to the terms of an award would not be illegal but would be accompanied by penalties that would reduce the bargaining power of the party that took such action.

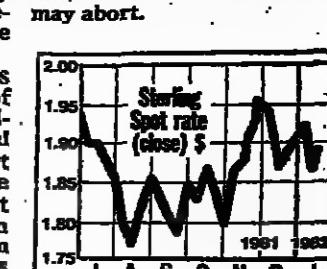
The hope would be that the knowledge by both parties that they could get the effective support of such an award would induce them in general to seek agreement on wage claims that were likely to conform to the employment-promotion criterion of the arbitral body.

I recognize that a solution along these lines would raise extremely difficult political problems. Whether or not a solution can be found on these lines depends not merely on the construction of suitable institutions (important and necessary though that is); but above all on a change of attitude on the part of the great body of people, employers, and employees, who are concerned.

The matter cannot be put right simply by legislation; the general acceptance by the great majority of trade unionists and others of the idea that this would provide a much more sensible way of conducting affairs is an essential condition for its success. It could not possibly be imposed from above on an unresponsive population.

Third, assuming that trade unions must be left with substantial monopolistic powers if they are effectively to fulfil their wage-fixing functions; but that such powers can be used to excess, some method of control must be found. The solution is not through a

letting interest rates drop a notch may be closing fairly rapidly if political advantage is a major consideration. But they may be getting increasingly worried that the tentative economic recovery may abort.

**Tin Council**

### A crucial week

Many eyes will be focused on the International Tin Council when its meeting opens in London today.

Strong buying since last July has pushed up the cash price of LME tin by almost £2,000 to about £8,500 a tonne. Not only that, it has opened a wide and unprecedented gap of some £300. Producers, led by Malaysia, Arabs and others, have been cited as the forces behind the sustained and powerful market move which has already lasted longer than many thought possible. But whoever it may be, there is no doubt that producers benefit.

They benefit in two ways. First, higher prices obviously mean higher income. Second, and more germane to the ITC meeting, high prices support the producers' argument that the metal has been undervalued and that consumer resistance last year to raising intervention prices was unjustified. Such arguments will dominate the meeting.

The chances are, however, that they will not — indeed cannot — be resolved. In one respect the consumers' argument has possibly been strengthened: if the market is being manipulated, they could say we only have to wait and the producers will learn the error of their ways. At the very least, the condition of the market will sour relations between the two sides and make agreement much harder to reach.

**MEPC**

### Raising cash

As befits our second largest property company, the £62m cash call from MEPC is only the second biggest property rights issue ever. That prize went to the sector giant, Land Securities, in June 1980 with a £108m fund raising.

Even so, there will surely be one or two disconcerted shareholders in MEPC who will turn up for the noon annual meeting at the Hyde Park Hotel, Knightsbridge today, to press the directors about the need to dial such a blow to their wallets.

For there is no doubting the scale of MEPC's ambitions, nor of the size of its present empire: gross assets this week have not been consistent with what one might have expected after last week's exceptionally large leap in the United States money supply.

On this basis, it is possibly wiser to treat the dollar's behaviour this week as the result of short-term profit-taking rather than the start of a major downward break. Be that as it may, it is a development that has been convenient for the British monetary authorities. Together with the boost to sterling from the receding threat of a miners' strike, it has meant not only that the Bank has not had to intervene to support sterling — and so aggravate money market shortages still further — but that it has in fact been able to move in exactly the opposite direction and go along with a modest reduction in bill rates.

In part, the acceptance of lower bill rates is simply a way of encouraging companies into bill, rather than overdraft, financing, thus keeping a good flow of new bills into the market for the authorities to buy in the face of persisting shortages.

It is probably a little too early to say whether the authorities would be happy to see interest rates drop a further half point. With an early Budget only seven weeks away now, the window for

MEPC was had a wonderful recovery since the dark days, but the fact remains that the latest rights issue (will there be another in two years?) knocked an already weak share price 1p to 214p yesterday. The issue, of one asset for five at 189p, diluted net asset value from 373p to 340p.

MEPC has had a wonderful recovery since the dark days, but the fact remains that the latest rights issue (will there be another in two years?) knocked an already weak share price 1p to 214p yesterday. The issue, of one asset for five at 189p, diluted net asset value from 373p to 340p.

MEPC was one of those property companies that went to the brink in 1974-75, so the present surge of expansion could arouse unpleasant memories; and from a portfolio as vast as £900m surely some low yielding assets could have been disposed of in order to pay for expansion elsewhere.

MEPC had a wonderful recovery since the dark days, but the fact remains that the latest rights issue (will there be another in two years?) knocked an already weak share price 1p to 214p yesterday. The issue, of one asset for five at 189p, diluted net asset value from 373p to 340p.

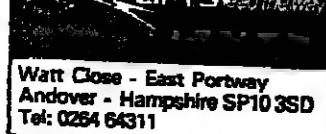
Please address your

## Stock Exchange Prices

## Gilts surge ahead

5 Forward bargains are permitted on two previous days

ACCOUNT DAYS: Dealings began, Jan 11. Dealings end Jan 22. 5 Contango Day Jan 25. Settlement Day, Feb 1.



Watt Close - East Portway  
Andover - Hampshire SP10 3SD  
Tel: 0264 64311

1981/82 High Low Stock	Price Chg't % P/E	Int. Gross Div Yld	Gross Div % P/E	1981/82 High Low Company	Price Chg't % P/E	Gross Div Yld	Gross Div % P/E	1981/82 High Low Company	Price Chg't % P/E	Gross Div Yld	Gross Div % P/E	1981/82 High Low Company	Price Chg't % P/E	Gross Div Yld	Gross Div % P/E
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## Football

# Regis out to impress Greenwood

The England manager, Ron Greenwood, will be at the League Cup quarter-final match between Aston Villa and West Bromwich Albion tomorrow when he will get a close-up view of Cyrille Regis in action.

Regis is anxious to press his claims for an England cap, but has not scored, so far, in seven games against Villa.

However, Regis, who has scored 13 times in the last 12 games, received an unexpected boost from Villa's winger, Tony Morley, on the verge of an England breakthrough himself.

"Morley used to like to be delighted to play alongside Regis for England. He is similar to Peter Withe as a target man, but he has much more speed and I would imagine we could attack him with plenty of ease," said Regis and Morley lead the claims of the outsiders pressing for a World Cup place, but Villa's Peter Withe will also be keen to impress Greenwood after coming through the ranks, injury and suspension in recent months.

It is a great incentive for goal; which supporters in the Midlands are demanding after two games last season had produced only one. Withe scored after a mistake by Brian Bassett, and Morley believes tomorrow's game will need a similar effort to decide who goes through to meet Tottenham.

"There is so much at stake, and so much local pride, that without something dramatic, I feel a replay will be inevitable," he said.

But he warned West Bromwich, who have won their last six,

games, that Villa, though failing to hold onto their League title, are still competing in three cup competitions this season.

Villa should be at full strength, while West Bromwich bring back Gary O'Neil, on loan from Fulham, Clive Whitehead, normally a centre half, or Andy King will fill his place.

The Arsenal reserve goalkeeper, Ray Clemence, stood back and watched appreciatively as Nottingham Forest's Peter Shilton, Tottenham's Peter Shilton, and the World Cup semi-finalists, away to White Hart Lane last night.

Shilton pulled off a string of superlative saves as Forest threatened to stop Tottenham's League Cup progress. In the end, it was beaten only by Osieku, another one-man show, a winner, which gave Tottenham a place in the semi-finals.

But the highlight of his performance was his save from a penalty which Glenn Hoddle had taken to make sure that Shilton stopped Hoddle's first attempt as a Forest player encroached, while the second shot,

was beaten by the second shot,

but this time a Spurs player moved and when Hoddle tried again Shilton made a brilliant flying save.

The Tottenham manager, Keith Burkinshaw, paid a general tribute to Shilton and said: "He made five very good saves. It was a great performance." Burkinshaw also singled out his own Tony Calvin for praise. "Calvin has been the best game for the club," said Greenwood, "in terms of skill, he has put him into the England World Cup squad straight away. There is not a better left-sided forward in the country."

Alan Brazil, the Scottish striker, who has joined his Ipswich team-mates, seems determined to make problems for the World Cup commentators.

A few more goals of the class

he scored last night to take Ipswich through to the semi-finals of the League Cup for the first time, and he will probably be playing for Scotland against Brazil in Seville on June 18.

The Ipswich manager, Bobby Robson, said: "In terms of skill, it was a brilliant goal, worthy of his namesake. No Brazilian could have done it better."

The goal, which followed John Ward's 15th-minute equaliser for Watford, saw Brazil control a cross from Mills and send his tight-marking defender Ian Bolton the wrong way before using the gap he had created to slot in.

After a superb match, the Watford manager, Graham Taylor,

WELSH CUP: Fourth round: Posterden v. Wrexham.

welsh cup posterden v wrexham

## Liverpool end Barnsley's giant-killing performance

By Keith Macklin

BARNESLEY 1 Liverpool 3

Liverpool put paid to the golden dream of Barnsley last night when they ran out victory in a game that was marked by its hard physical contact and fierce competition. It was a game of savagery and pride, and Barnsley, who had already collected the scalps of Swansea, Brighton and Manchester City, seemed after 20 minutes as if they were going to dangle Liverpool's from their own coat-waist. But when the ball fell into the net after Grobbelaar had failed to hold a blistering shot from Evans.

After 25 minutes Liverpool equalised. An attempted clearance by Banks struck Rush and fell perfectly on to the toe of Stoeness whose first time volley beat the Barnsley crowd, anxious

## Relief for Thatcher's men

By Paul Newman

The financial crisis which threatened to close down Grantham, the Northern Premier League club, has been averted after a last-minute share issue.

FIRST DIVISION: Sivok v Arsenal

SECOND DIVISION: Cardiff City v

NOTH. PREM.: Bradford City v

MANCHESTER CITY: First round: Stevenage v Cheltenham Town; Second round: AFC Bournemouth v Arsenal; Third round: AFC Bury v

Walsall; Fourth round: Grimsby v

Wrexham; Fifth round: Wrexham v

Walsall; Sixth round: Wrexham v

Walsall; Seventh round: Wrexham v

Walsall; Eighth round: Wrexham v

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Walsall; Fifteenth round: Wrexham v

Walsall; Sixteenth round: Wrexham v

Walsall; Seventeenth round: Wrexham v

Walsall; Eighteenth round: Wrexham v

Walsall; Nineteenth round: Wrexham v

Walsall; Twentieth round: Wrexham v

Walsall; Twenty-first round: Wrexham v

Walsall; Twenty-second round: Wrexham v

Walsall; Twenty-third round: Wrexham v

Walsall; Twenty-fourth round: Wrexham v

Walsall; Twenty-fifth round: Wrexham v

Walsall; Twenty-sixth round: Wrexham v

Walsall; Twenty-seventh round: Wrexham v

Walsall; Twenty-eighth round: Wrexham v

Walsall; Twenty-ninth round: Wrexham v

Walsall; Thirtieth round: Wrexham v

## Rugby Union

## England door opens up again for Scott and Blakeway

By Peter West  
Rugby Correspondent

The call sent out yesterday for John Scott to join some unscheduled squad training at Stourbridge next Monday evening implies that, although the Cardiff captain and No 8 has yet to play a game this season, England's selectors must be thinking of bringing him back to the side for the international against Ireland at Twickenham on February 6.

The Gloucester prop, Philip Blakeway, cornerstone of England's scrummaging in the grand slam success of 1980, has also been invited to Stourbridge, along with 15 other forwards and backs from the region, Steve Smith and Nigel Mervin.

Things have moved swiftly for Scott since I reported yesterday that he was hoping to start his comeback with a game for Cardiff's second team on Saturday. He has now got the confidence to throw him in at the deep end with an invitation to lead their first XV against Sective Rangers in Dublin on Friday, the eve of the Ireland-Wales international.

Scott, who has won 20 caps, the last two of them in Argentina, has been training hard for a month after operations on both ankles which kept him inactive in the early part of the season. I did not think that he could be expected to attain sufficient match fitness in time for the Irish match, a three-week gap, rather than a fortnight, in the championship programme will enable him to get in at least two senior games beforehand.

It may be that the selectors, were it enough by the lack of English control and experience at Murrayfield, would be prepared to pick them against Ireland even if they did not think him wholly prepared.

A week ago, the selectors surely were thinking of Scott in terms of the two championship matches, against France in Paris, and against Wales at Twickenham. Events in the drawn Scottish encounter, however, have reminded them forcibly of what his control and expertise can deliver close in.

After missing the tour of Argentina because of recurring back trouble suffered last season, Blakeway returned to the fold in November in good time to be picked as captain of the South and South West side against the Wallabies. He had to

retire at half-time in that match with a broken nose and double vision, and when the selectors came to announce their side to play Australia, they said they were not satisfied about his fitness.

That seemed a harsh judgment on a player who by general consent is without peer in the game here as a tight-head scrum-half, and Blakeway himself was in no doubt about his readiness. However, this unfailingly cheerful trooper remarked yesterday that he was absolutely delighted to be back in the racing, and that he would love to have another opportunity.

Blakeway is a year too old to be a regular in High Wycombe in the third round of the John Player Cup on Saturday — his first game since his nose was put out of joint.

Mike Rafter, that staunch Bristol and England flanker, has had some news to bear in recent weeks. First, before Christmas, he heard that he had lost his England place to Peter Winterbottom after winning it back from David Cooke in Australia.

Yesterday came the announcement that Bristol had left him out of their side for their cup match at St Ives. Malcolm Baker will take his place in Cornwall and Bob Head, England's No 8 at Twickenham, will take over from Steve Corlett.

Rafter said yesterday that since coming back from Argentina he felt he had been playing as well as ever. Bristol, who have not been short of good loose forwards in recent seasons, must see Baker's physical presence at the lineout as a useful factor in his favour. Rafter, however, remains a member of the England squad due to muster at Stourbridge.

It has now been established that Bill Beaumont's establishment last weekend was a touch of gaudy extravagance. This also caught up with him, with the English coach, and Brian Dore, the stand-off half, has now reported to Twickenham that he is a victim of it as well.

England SQUAD: E Scott (Cardiff), G S Pearce (Northampton), P. Blakeway (Gloucester), J. Wheeler (Bath), M. J. Colclough (Argyle), P. J. Smith (Worcester), B. Head (Cornwall), V. Mervin (Cardiff), N. Mervin (Cardiff), J. Gold (Birmingham), P. J. Winterbottom (Huddersfield), M. Baker (Bristol), J. Hesketh (Wrexham), M. Tupper (Glasgow), S. Smith (Cardiff), S. J. Smith (Cardiff), N. Mervin (Worcester).



Flattened: Ogumbiyo of Charing Cross finds Morris too much of a burden

## Watkinson for Free

By Gordon Allan

Royal Free 19 Charing Cross 9 Royal Free beat Charing Cross by five penalty goals and a try to three penalties in the first round of the Hospitals Cup competition at Teddington yesterday. Next Tuesday, they play Westminster, at King's College Hospital ground at Dog Kennel Hill, East Dulwich.

Tony Watkinson, the Oxford and London Irish centre, played a decisive part in Royal Free's victory. He kicked three penalties in the first half to match the three kicked by Kearns for Charing Cross, and scored in the last 10 minutes of the game, when a dreaded draw as far as this competition is concerned, was beginning to seem the most probable result.

The try was the last chapter of all, which was somehow achieved, despite the moment, impetuosity and error that had made it unlikely that a try would ever be scored — at least as far as the day was still daylight. Morris, a bustling no. 8, was the man who finally got over the line. Watkinson and Hare having run the ball down the left wing and scored a ruck, Morris had crossed the line to receive treatment.

However, that nomadic club, the Co-Optimists, which has carried the Scottish banner with considerable success abroad over the last three years, and the present Scottish XV, would certainly be able to provide the Champion with every reason to wear ear-to-ear smiles.

It is, of course, not beyond the bounds of possibility that Wales will have two representatives if Welsh were to win the national VII.

Barbarians celebrate centenary

Middlesex tournaments; they were runners-up last year.

The Middlesex tournament, which will function on a knockout basis, will be the leading event during a week of celebration which will include a dinner, a quiz, a "Ned" Hare, the founder of sevens.

Although sevens has always been very popular north of the border, it is curious that the last decade has seen no outstanding Scottish club in action in England.

England's representatives will be the winners of the 1982 Middlesex Sevens, which was won last year by Roslyn Park, and similarly Wales will send the winners of their National Sevens next year.

It is, of course, not beyond the bounds of possibility that Wales will have two representatives if Welsh were to win the national VII.

Hockey

## England invited to tour Soviet Union

By Sydney Friskin

For the next 18 months the England hockey team have a busy schedule which will take them up to the European Nations Championship in Amsterdam in August 1982. They will then be invited to tour the Soviet Union in September this year and will probably accept. The Soviet Union themselves have been invited to play in the International tournament at the Queen's Park Rangers football ground in October.

The Hockey Association announced yesterday that the public inquiry into the setting up of a national hockey centre at Chiswick had been completed and that the Secretary of State had proposed to execute a decision within the next three months. It is believed, however, that the project has the support of the Greater London Council and that the Borough of Hounslow, who had earlier rejected the plans, are now more favourably disposed to them.

The competitions committee of the indoor club championships qualifying matches which fell through at Bristol on Sunday because of adverse playing conditions will still be played at Manchester on January 30 from 10 am to 6 pm. The teams involved are: pool 7, Firebirds, Pickwick, Naval Air Command and Sheffield; pool 8, Wimbledon, Southport, Maidenhead, Tulce Hill.

After last Sunday's matches at other venues, Slough, St Albans, Pelicans, South Notts, Stone and Bristol qualified for the final rounds to be played at Crystal Palace on February 12. 25. A proposal has been made that teams who do not display numbers on their shirts should either be fined £35 or face disqualification.

COUNTY CHAMPIONSHIP (London): Final round (January 31): RAF v Yorkshire (RAF Cranwell); Essex v Bedfordshire (Colchester) (Sunderland, 1.45pm); Warwickshire (South, 1.45pm).

HOME COUNTIES EXPO CHAMPIONSHIP (London): Final round (February 13): Scotland v Ireland (6.30pm); February 13: Scotland v Wales (10.30am); England v Ireland (10.30am); Wales v Scotland (1pm); England (2pm); Northern Ireland v Scotland (2pm).

MASTERS CHAMPIONSHIP: Qualifying round (Crystal Palace): Stone v winner of pool 7; St Albans v Slough, Bristol v West of England, 2pm.

Folkestone programme

## Racing

## Pigeon's challengers clash at Haydock

By John Karter

The pigeons lining in the black cloud of abandonment that has been hanging over racing for the past few weeks is that we can expect many clashes between leading National Hunt stars that would not usually have taken place. All roads now lead to the meeting at Cheltenham on Saturday March 3 and trainers whose horses have one of the big prizes there as their objective, will be desperately keen to give them a run beforehand while at the same time hoping to pick up a decent prize or two on the way.

This weekend's outstanding fields can be expected for the Champion Hurdle Trial and the Peter Smith Steeplechase at Haydock Park. The former is the final Steeplechase and Latvian horse Ruride Hurdle at Kempton Park. The reigning champion, Sea Pigeon, and the current favourite, Daring Run, will miss the Haydock Trial it is true, but the field will include several leading contenders.

For the past year or so, Sea Pigeon has been suffering from a bad attack of the virus and has also been breaking blood vessels. The recent market support suggests that he is over these troubles, but neither Mr Muldoon

nor O'Neill were able to shed any light on the situation. O'Neill has said that he would be unable to ride him because of frost. Folkestone is definitely on, as are the meetings at Lingfield Park and Newton Abbot tomorrow. At Folkestone there is an fascinating clash between the highly-rated Great Light and Monks' Run in the first division of the Northumbrian Novices' Hurdle.

Mr Muldoon's statement was even more revealing. He said that he hoped the horse would run, but that Easterly was such a naturally uncommunicative man that he just did not know what the position was. All I can say is that Sea Pigeon must be receiving treatment," Mr Muldoon said, "because he keeps putting it on the bills!"

Plans for Easterly's Gold Cup pair are for Little Owl to take on Dramatist and Venture To Cognac in the Fulwell Steeplechase and, for Night Nurse to meet such as Captain Haze and Bravado in the Peter Smith Steeplechase.

As a spokesman for Little Owl's owner-rider, Jim Wilson, said yesterday that the horse was extremely well after his fall at Cheltenham.

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EC2 88,900.

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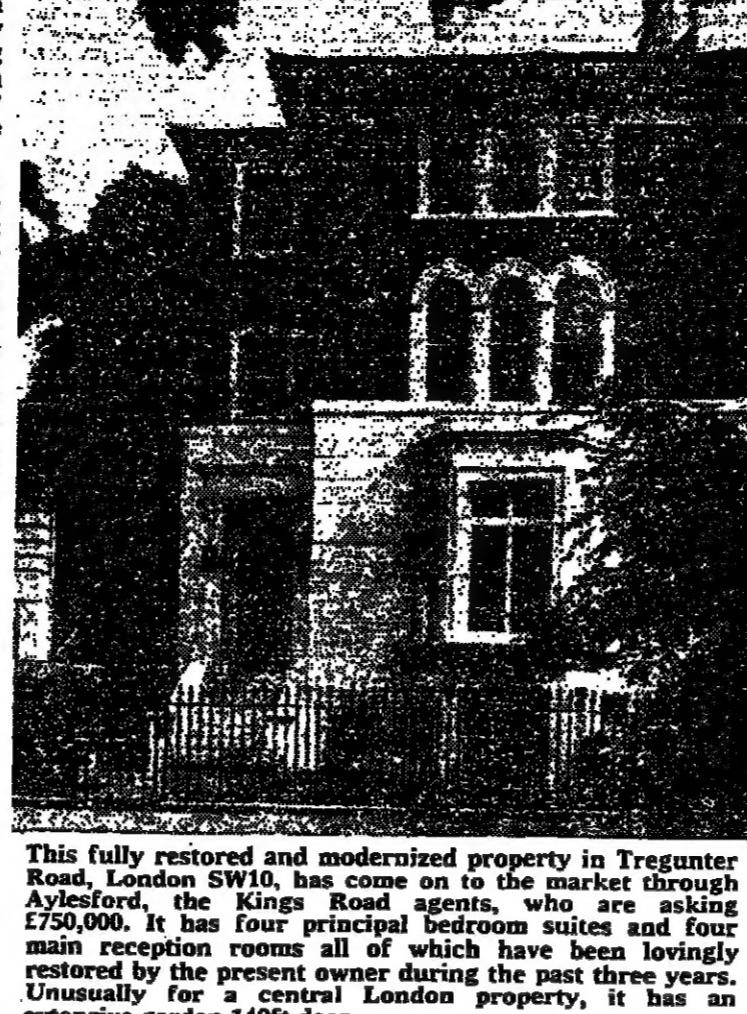
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## Residential property by Baron Phillips

## A cheerful Spring is in the air



This fully restored and modernized property in Tregunter Road, London SW10, has come on to the market through Aylesford, the Kings Road agents, who are asking £750,000. It has four principal bedroom suites and four main reception rooms all of which have been lovingly restored by the present owner during the past three years. Unusually for a central London property, it has an extensive garden 140' deep.

more lively market in 1982 when many lobbyists are more encouraging for thoughts turn to the Budget. It is only a few weeks away and over the next fortnight many submissions will be made to the Chancellor.

This is the first optimistic sign we have had for months. The Times/Halifax index of house prices indicated that prices were, indeed, on the move again. But there must be a lot of catching up before any real progress is made.

While estate agents, are easing a little more optimistic, this is the time of year

when many lobbyists are more encouraging for thoughts turn to the Budget. It is only a few weeks away and over the next fortnight many submissions will be made to the Chancellor.

The property market could do with some encouragement from Sir Geoffrey Howe. It is understood some serious thought is being given to easing the burden of stamp duty on buyers.

Statistically, one in two purchasers has to pay stamp

duty compared with only one in six in 1974. Originally it was a form of luxury tax and eight years ago was levied on the purchase of every house over £15,000; the threshold was increased to £20,000 in 1980.

There is speculation in the building industry that the threshold may be raised again this year, by as much as £30,000, with an upward drift of the bands. Only houses over £45,000 would incur the full 2 per cent duty now levied on property costing more than £35,000.

Builders argue that by raising the threshold life is made considerably easier for first-time buyers specifically and, of course, cuts moving costs generally. It has been claimed that some buyers are put off simply because of the additional cost of stamp duty. For example, anyone paying just over £35,000 incurs duty of £700 and in the £100,000-plus market, figures become astronomical.

Any relaxation of the duty would help to stimulate the lower end of the market, which in turn would help people selling medium-priced property.

Many people believe that easing stamp duty fits in with Government policy of encouraging home ownership.

But the biggest stimulus to the market would come from any measure the Chancellor might take to bring down interest rates. When mortgage rates moved up to 15 per cent last autumn, demand was dampened and many builders brought in subsidized mortgage schemes to keep sales rolling.

More activity in the housing market would bring back to the economy a far greater confidence and, conversely, any measures which get the economy moving again would benefit the property market. Confidence is the key to the present parlous state of the property market.

## Humbers

17 acres  
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Somerset  
Taunton 8 miles, Wellington 2 miles, M4 5 miles. A Georgian country house in well-established gardens with further land available if required. 3 reception rooms, 5 bedrooms, bathroom, kitchen/breakfast room, garage for 3 cars, stabling, outbuildings, garden, grounds, woodland, paddocks available if required. Cottage with 2 bedrooms, 2 reception rooms, kitchen and bathroom. £120,000 Freshfield with about 15 acres available additionally. John Agents: Stags, Wellington. Tel: (08237) 2822 and Humbers, 17 Hammet Street, Taunton. Tel: (0823) 88484 (17/5980/SAH)

6 Lincoln's Inn Fields, London WC2A 3DB. Telephone: 01-242 3121 Telex: 27444

## OVERSEAS PROPERTIES

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★ Private Air  
★ Conditioning  
★ Double compartment  
sink  
★ Walk-in Wardrobes  
★ Two Bathrooms  
with corner Recessed  
wardrobes  
★ Pet Air  
★ Central Heating  
★ Double Glazing  
★ Large Garden  
★ Decking  
★ Large Garage  
★ Easy Access to Hwy.  
★ Large Swimming Pool  
★ Large Garden  
★ Large Kitchen/Dining Room  
★ Large Living Room  
★ Large Bed Room  
★ Large Bath Room  
★ Large Garden  
★ Large Kitchen/D



# Today's television and radio programmes

Edited by Peter Dear

**BBC 1**

9.05 For Schools, Colleges: Technical Studies. 9.38 Science Workshop. 10.00 You and Me. For the very young (not Schools). 10.15 Everyday Maths. 10.38 Geometry. 11.00 Words and Pictures. 11.17 Playing Percussion. 11.40 Finding the View. 12.05 Lesser eleven of a twenty-four-part French course. 12.30 News After Noon with Richard Whitmore and Morna Sturt. 12.57 Regional news (London and SE only). 1.00 Pebble Mill at One includes Glyn Christian's cookery hints. 1.45 Postman Pat. A See-Saw programme for the very young (r). 2.01 For Schools, Colleges: To Tahiti with Captain Cook. 2.18 Earth in Action. 2.46 Merry-Go-Round. 3.05 Songs of Prance St Peter's Church. Hereford produced by Geoffrey Wheeler (r). 3.40 Play It Safe. Jimmy Savile with tips on safety for children (r). 3.53 Regional news (not London).

**BBC 2**

10.20 Gharbar: A magazine programme of interest to Asian women. 10.45 Closedown. 11.00 Play School. For the under-fives presented by Carol Leader and Ben Bassell. Today's story is the traditional, The Mitten. 11.25 Closedown. 12.30 Open University: Developing Mathematical Thinking: Setting Up and Solving. 1.20 Closedown. 3.55 Landscapes of England. In the third of twelve explorations by Professor W. G. Hoskins we are taken to the marshes and coastline of Norfolk. Here Professor Hoskins explains how generations of people have adapted to the ever-present water — both salt and fresh (r).

**ITV/LONDON**

9.30 For Schools Insight. For the hearing impaired. 9.47 Picture Box. 10.04 How different types of paper are made. 10.28 Using your time to help others. 11.02 Life by the seaside. 11.20 Safety. 11.39 Radio and cinema of 1946. 12.00 The Munch Bunch. Animated vegetables for the very young. 12.10 Rainbow. Learning with puppets and guest, Pal Coombes. 12.30 Play It Again. Gilly Gibbons talks to Hayley Mills, who chooses clips from her favourite films. 1.00 News 1.20 Themes News 1.30 Take the High Road. Drama series set on a Highland estate. 2.20 After Noon Plus. Kay Atfield talks to George Melly about his book, *The Great Lovers*; and Mary Nicholson talks to Graham Smith about his collection of hats for Kangol. 2.45 The Six Million Man. The man of many parts foil a foreign power's attempts to steal some laser secrets. 3.45 About Britain: The Steam House. Film of a 'steam-in' at Kendal.

**Radio 4**

6.00 News briefing. 6.10 Funding Today. 6.30 Today. 6.35 Yesterday in Parliament. 9.00 News. 9.05 Midweek. Henry Kelly goes West — direct from Plymouth.

10.00 10.02 Gardeners' Question Time. 10.02 West. Filled. Horticultural Society, Avon. Daily Service.

10.30 Morning Story: "An Exercise in Autobiography" by Sylva Hayman. 11.00 News. 11.05 Baker's Dozen. 12.00 News. 12.27 Around the World in 25 Years.

12.55 Weather. 1.00 The World at One. 1.40 The Archers. 2.00 Woman's Hour. 3.00 News. 3.05 "The Game of His Life" by David Hopkins.

3.50 Report South West. 4.00 Elizabeth Sodergran. The Swedish soprano reflects on the death of life, and its importance in music.

4.45 Story Time: "The Simple Life" by H. E. Bates, abridged in two parts (1).

5.00 Weather. 5.55 Weather. 6.00 News. 6.30 My Word! 7.00 News. 7.20 Report (new series). A weekly investigation into listeners' experience of unfair dealing.

7.45 Origins: "In Search of Tristan". A journey for evidence to support the legend of Tristan and Isolde.

8.15 A Cornish Evening. Brenda Walmsley entertains with songs and guests. 8.45 File on 4. 9.05 Kaleidoscope.

9.25 Weather. 10.00 The World Tonight. 10.30 Ombudsman. 11.00 Book at Bedtime: "Portrait of the Artist as a Young Man" by James Joyce (3).

11.15 The Financial World Tonight. 11.30 News and Weather. VHF: 6.25 am Weather forecast. 10.00 For Schools 10.30 Listen with Mother 11.00 For Schools 2 pm For Schools 5.50 PM (continued) 11.00 Study on 4.

11.45 Brahms Piano recital. 11.00 Enesco (series). Octet for Strings Op. 77.

11.45 Rupert Foundation Conductors' Awards Semi-finals (recorded Monday): Beethoven, Strauss, Tippet, Respighi.

1.00 News. 1.05 Concert Hall Recital (Tenor, Horn and Piano) direct from Broadcasting House, London: Augustus Panteron, Eugene Virol, Bernhard Kroll, Britten, Otto Nicolai.

2.00 Music Weekly. 2.50 Interview Talking (new series). Prominent jazz musicians discuss their careers with Charles Fox (1) Red Novo.

4.00 Chorus Evensong, from Liverpool Cathedral; 1.

4.55 Mainly for Pleasure with Richard Graves.

7.00 Chopin Piano recital.

7.30 Rupert Foundation Conductors' Awards: The Final (recorded Part 1: Mozart (conducted by the finalists); 2.

8.30 8.50 Rupert Foundation Conductors' Awards: The Final (recorded by Ola Schmidt) followed by results of the awards.

9.40 Music in our Time Geoffrey Peacock.

11.00 News.

11.05 The Dream of Gunmar by Nielsen; record; 1.

11.45 Brahms Piano recital; 1.

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**World Service**

BBC World Service can be received in Western Europe on medium wave 100.4MHz and the following three bands: 640MHz (1.45MHz above 100.4MHz), 1.600MHz (1.45MHz above 640MHz), 2.000MHz (1.45MHz above 1.600MHz). Four Hours: News Summary, 7.30 Letter From London, 7.40 Book Choice, 7.45 Report on Religion, 8.00 World News, 8.30 Tales & Leaves, 9.00 World News, 9.30 Review of the British Press, 9.15 The World Today, 9.30 The Times, 9.45 The Times, 10.00 John Major's Album, 10.15 Classical Record Review, 10.30 The Red and the Black, 11.00 World News, 11.25 News about Britain, 11.15 Listening Post, 1.20 pm News, 1.30 pm News, 1.45 pm Nature Notebook, 1.45 pm The Farming World, 1.45 Sports Roundup, 1.00 pm News, 1.15 pm News, 1.30 pm News Summary, 1.30 Radio Theatre, 2.15 Report on Religion, 2.30 A World in Edges, 3.00 Radio News, 3.15 Outlook, 4.00 News About Britain, 4.15 Musician of the Month, 4.45 The World Today, 5.00 Listening Post, 5.25 The Red and the Black, 5.45 The Times, 6.00 News, 6.15 pm News, 6.30 pm News, 6.45 pm News, 6.50 pm News, 6.55 pm News, 6.58 pm News, 6.59 pm News, 6.60 pm News, 6.65 pm News, 6.70 pm News, 6.75 pm News, 6.80 pm News, 6.85 pm News, 6.90 pm News, 6.95 pm News, 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